



POTSDAM QUALIFIERS—Nine members of the Potsdam State women's swimming team have qualified to participate in the New York State Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (NYSIAAW) Championships in Syracuse, Feb. 23 and 24. From left are Cindy Davis of Elma; Roxane Lynch,

Canton; Elaine Davey, Keeseville; Debbie Benjamin, Newton, Conn.; Kathy Locy, Canton; Nancy Fee, Plattsburgh; Toni Zappia, Massena; and Vickie Roger, Camillus. In front is team mascot "Muffin". Absent from picture is Leslie Gilbert of Elmira.

Potsdam State Women Qualify For State Competition

When the judges signal for swimmers to take their marks at this weekend's NYSIAAW State swimming and diving championships in Syracuse, Potsdam State will be well represented with nine women qualified for 19 individual and four relay events.

Swimming for the first time in "A" and "B" brackets, the Bears find themselves with a very good chance of placing high among the 30 "B" division schools.

Seven of the team's eight individual entrants are rated among the top 15, with Potsdam's Nancy Fee seeded in the top three in 50-yard and top four in the 100-yard backstroke.

Nancy, a freshman from Plattsburgh,

went undefeated at backstroke during the Bears' dual meet season and is also ranked among the top 10 in the 50-yard butterfly and freestyle, and in the top 20 in the 100 freestyle.

Coach Cathy Klein praised Nancy's performance in her rookie season at Potsdam and feels that with time she could improve to become the Bears' best backstroke ever.

Vickie Rogers (Camillus), another freshman, has qualified for four individual events and is ranked among the top five in 100-yard breaststroke and among the top 10 in 50 breaststroke, 50 butterfly, and the 100-yard individual medley.

Cindy Davis (Elma) and Leslie

Garbett (Elmira) round out the team's four freshman qualifiers and are both ranked in the top 20 in the 100 I.M., with Davis also qualified for the 500-yard butterfly.

Sophomore co-captain Elaine Davey was the only Bear swimmer to qualify in last year's state championships. The Keeseville native is rated in the top 12 in the 50-yard freestyle.

Debbie Benjamin (Newton, Conn.) one of only two Potsdam seniors on this year's team will be competing in the 50-, 100- and 200-yard freestyle events. She is seeded in the top 12 in all three races.

Sisters Roxanne and Kathy Locy of Canton are the Bears' other two individual qualifiers. Co-captain Kathy, the team's other graduating senior, is returning to the state meet on the three-meter diving board, while Roxanne is making her first trip, competing in the 50- and 100-yard breaststroke.

Massena's Toni Zappia will be involved with Potsdam's 200- and 400-yard freestyle relay teams. A sophomore, Toni registered as a "tough competitor" by Coach Klein.

Although the Bears have very little

Cold Spell Makes The Skiing Tough

It is still hard to write about ski and snow conditions when the weather has been so dominated by the cold. Some rather good skiing was to be had in the late morning if you were sking in the sun; otherwise, recent alpine and cross-country skiing was a matter of keeping warm more than anything else. Never before have I seen so many temperature records broken during the month of February, and many of these records were broken right here in New York and Vermont. Syracuse, for example, may have set an all time record for the city with 26 degrees below zero. It was much colder than that in the ski country as well as this county. By the time that this article comes out we should have returned to the normal February with some periodic temperatures above freezing, and we can begin to look for the surface to "corn" up just a bit. With the return of warmer weather, there is the increased possibility of some snowstorms which will be necessary to make for some good spring skiing.

The rains of January and the cold of February have caused the skier attendance at most of the major eastern alpine ski areas to drop from that of the previous year. Still in all of the difficult weather, most cross-country ski resorts have increased utilization of their groomed trails. In other words, cross-country ski attendance is up at the Trapp Family Lodge, Blueberry Hill, and Waterville Valley, just to name a few.

Skiing And Money
If any skier has the time and money to go away for a ski vacation, I can only recommend that he go to Canada because of the favorable exchange rate. Mt. Tremblant in the east and Banff and Whistler in the west are the best bets. You will save about 15 percent over the

same ski vacation in Colorado or Utah, and you will save 33 percent as against a comparable ski vacation in Switzerland, Austria, or Germany. It is those European ski vacations that you have to be so careful about.

The devaluation of the dollar particularly in Switzerland, Austria, and Germany have made any ski vacations in those areas unrealistic. Recent

western Canada where you can get a bonus on your money and get very comparable ski conditions and accommodations.

Skiing Forecast
There should be some fine skiing this week if there is no rain and it gets warmer as all of the forecasts indicate at presstime. I would suggest that you stay away from potential large crowds at Gore and Whiteface and stick to Tupper. I have noticed on several occasions that the lift lines are a little longer this year at Tupper, primarily because of the increased popularity of the area with the new lift. It is a real problem these days to find an area that you can ski when the children are off school. Here is where cross-country skiing is a real advantage.

SKI TRAIL NOTES

JERRY LEEK



Free Movie
Attention ski clubs: The State of New York has a new free movie that you may borrow. It is called "Snow Lovers Love New York." The film is narrated by Lake Placid's Jack Shea who won the gold in speed skating in 1932. There are also shots of seldom seen Sonja Henie, Billy Fiske, Eddie Egan and Irving Jaffee. In the case of Irving Jaffee, the film shows him winning gold medals for speed skating in the 5,000 and 10,000 meter events. One shot shows Jaffe diving headfirst across the finish line. The film also shows the virtues of New York alpine skiing.

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SLU Icemen Win At Home

CANTON—St. Lawrence University hockey goalie Gary Laskoski has done some spectacular things...those not normally seen coming from a goalie...in his first season as a collegiate net-minder.

But, Laskoski came up with the topper Friday night, scoring his third assist of the season on an unusual play which lifted the Saints to a 6-5 win over R.P.I. and gave SLU its first ECAC Division I home victory of the year.

With the Engineer net open in favor of an extra attacker, Laskoski gloved an R.P.I. shot, flipped the puck up in the air and batted it over the congested area in front of the goal.

It didn't come down until it had cleared the Saints blue line, and it was headed straight for the R.P.I. net.

So was SLU captain Doug Crawford, and as a couple steps behind him, an R.P.I. defender.

The puck, because of its high trajectory, was losing steam, and while it might have made it to the goal had no one gone after it, Crawford picked it up and gave it the added momentum to score the Saints' sixth goal of the night...one which loomed as the winner when R.P.I. scored off a goal in a melee on Laskoski's doorstep with only 10 seconds to go in the game.

R.P.I. protested the Saint goal, saying Laskoski's stick was too high when he hit the puck, but the game officials pointed out that the rule book says high sticking does not apply to a goalie unless he conks a player with his stick.

So, St. Lawrence had its 5-6 win, boosting it to 7-17-2 overall and 4-14-1 in Division I.

Basketball
St. Lawrence University's basketball team came up with a pair of major victories in two straight hectic nights Tuesday and Wednesday as they entered the stretch run on the 1978-79 season looking for improved seeding in the upcoming NCAA playoffs.

The Saints registered an impressive 28 points, 85-57 victory over Division II New York Tech on Tuesday, and came back with a 73-62 win over current SUNY Conference leader Plattsburgh on Wednesday to push their season's record to 12-5.

SLU will host the University of Rochester tonight (Tuesday) to complete a home stand, and then set out in quest of that NCAA spot in an Independent College Athletic Conference road doubleheader against Alfred and Ithaca next weekend.

St. Lawrence University's indoor track team won all but one running event to successfully defend its Independent College Athletic Conference indoor track championship at the R.P.I. facility Saturday.

The Saints who have now won three of the last four ICAC indoor crowns, totaled 181 points to runner-up R.P.I.'s 115, while Alfred, 101, R.I.T., 71, Ithaca 52, and Hobart, 1 trailed in order.

Saint runners won all but the 50-yard dash, finishing second and third in that event, to build up an insurmountable lead and won easily despite a weakness in the field events.

Jim Howard and Dewitt Cook were double winners for St. Lawrence, with Howard just missing a triple win performance.

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