

SPORTS & OUTDOORS

in the Western Mountains of Maine



Mikayla Burbank lays a bucket off the glass for two in a preliminary playoff game against Madison Tuesday, Feb. 10. (David Hart photo)

MTA advances to Augusta state tourney

By David Hart
Irregular Staff

Mt. Abram, 46 -- Madison, 37
SALEM -- The Lady Roadrunners of Mt. Abram faced Dirigo on Tuesday, Feb. 17 in Augusta in quarterfinal action, after the Irregular went to press.

To get to Augusta, the Roadrunners had to face the Bulldogs of Madison again, as they did in the final game of the regular season.

In what appeared to be a close game at the end of the first quarter, MTA had a three-point lead cruising into the second.

The Lady Roadrunners out shot the Bulldogs, 11-7 to reach the mid-point with a 21-14 advantage.

Several times throughout the game, Coach Doug Lisherness pulled his entire five starters to give them short rests and keep them out of foul trouble.

Senior guard Kenni Norton, in her final game at Mt. Abram, put up 10 points in the third including one three-pointer. The ladies challenged Madison with a full court press enabling scoring opportunities for MTA. The Roadrunners 16-9 run put the game away and led the Bulldogs 37-23 to end the third.

Junior guard Mikayla Burbank's five-point fourth gave her 11 points on the evening including one trey, 11 rebounds and seven steals.

Norton was the game high scorer with 22 on the night followed by Madison's Cecile Thibodeau with 12.

With the win, the girls took on Dirigo last Tuesday. Dirigo beat Livermore Falls 47-29 in preliminary action.

Emily Luce, State Class B GS champ

By David Hart
Irregular Staff

PRESQUE ISLE -- As the Original Irregular was being sent to printer this week on Monday, a Web site revealed the Mt. Abram's Emily Luce had just won the women's State Title in giant slalom alpine racing. The Mt. Abram Ski Team traveled to Big Rock on Sunday where the State Class B Nordic and Alpine State Championships are held this year.

The first event was the giant slalom and Luce combined her times to get an almost two-second advantage and became the Class B Giant Slalom State Champion.

Her first run 41.09 beat out Lauren Stackhouse 42.20 by over a second. Luce's second run was equally as perfect securing her the state title.

MTA's Noelle Lake posted a fifth place finish and Jillian Withee finished 15th. The fourth scorer for MTA was Erin Luce who posted a 17th place finish and MTA is now trailing Yarmouth by 13 in team points.

Mt. Abram freshman Ben Listowich continued to impress from the men's team finishing eighth that day.

Locals shine in Class A State competition

By David Hart
Irregular Staff

FARMINGTON -- The Farmington Ski Club and the entire Farmington community embraced middle school Nordic and Alpine skiers in the Class A State Ski Championships and put on an awesome event.

Sugarloaf Area Nordic and Alpine teams came to the Class A event for the first time ever having competed in Class B in past years. The enhanced competition did not hinder SAST's or SANT's success.

The State A competition started with alpine Giant Slalom and Freestyle competitions at Mt. Abram and Sunny Croft Farm on Feb. 11 and continued at Titcomb Mountain in Farmington on Feb. 14. The culmination of events concluded in a Spaghetti Banquet at Mt. Blue High School on Saturday night.

Giant Slalom

MT. ABRAM -- Under warning skies and heavy snow, the Sugarloaf alpine ladies delivered a powerful blast by filling the podium with our local skiers. Sugarloaf racers took the 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 spots on the race finish.

Jenie Rowland, after putting down a third place finish in her first run at 32.93, came back on fire in the second with the fastest time of the day at 30.94. The combined times put her a half second ahead for the gold followed by Czari Cochrane and Elise Luce.

Meghan McCormack was the fourth scorer finishing fifth followed by teammate Lexi Bullen who was right behind her.

This gave the ladies 11 points heading to the slalom competition in Farmington.

The boy's had a scare when local favorite Sam Morse clipped a gate disqualifying him from GS and Skimeister contention. Morse's second run was the fastest time on the day. Teammate Matt Beauegard picked up the slack combining his times at 59.68 almost five seconds ahead of the pack for a top spot on the

podium.

Scoring for SAST was Austin Couch who finished third, Jared Clukey sixth and John Theriault to round out the top four scorers. In Alpine combined, SAST found themselves in second place trailing Telstar by two-points 36-38.

Local Highlights Class A State Meet

Jenie Rowland

Giant Slalom Champion

Matt Beauegard

Giant Slalom Champion

Jenie Rowland

Slalom Champion

Sam Morse

Slalom Champion

Sadie James

Nordic Classic Champion

Jay Chenard

Nordic Classic Champion

Sadie James

2009 Skimeister

SAST Girls

Alpine Combined Champions

SAST Boys

Alpine Combined Champions

Nordic Freestyle

SUNNY CROFT FARM -- The fastest ladies' time went out to Farmington's Sarah Wade who had a 42-second lead over SANT's Sadie James who finished second in the freestyle event. Also scoring for SAST was Hattie Rosenberg and Emma Houston who had top-25 finishes. In team scoring, the ladies had to use a ghost, a term applied when a team does not have a fourth scorer. The ghost is the placement of what would have been a last place finish. With that, the SANT girls were standing in fourth in overall Nordic competition.

Same Morse finished second for Sugarloaf behind Ike Dorion of Farmington by 30 seconds. Also scoring for SANT was Jay Chenard who placed seventh and Skimeister Thomas Faraday, 21st on the chart. With a ghost scoring, the boys of Sugarloaf were sitting fourth in combined Nordic with 72 points.

Girls' Slalom

FARMINGTON -- Rowland, Cochrane and

Luce once again hogged the podium finishing 1, 2 and 3 respectively. Bullen rounded out the team scoring with a seventh place finish giving the team 13 points for the combined alpine events.

McCormack and Emily Listowich provided team depth finishing 8th and 11th that day.

With the 13 points in slalom and the nearly perfect score in GS, the ladies were penciled in at 24, enough to take the alpine Class A championship plaque home. The closest to them in combined scoring was Farmington with 94 and Auburn with 104.

The boys were trailing by two in combined alpine and needed a strong day on the slopes of Titcomb. This is

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