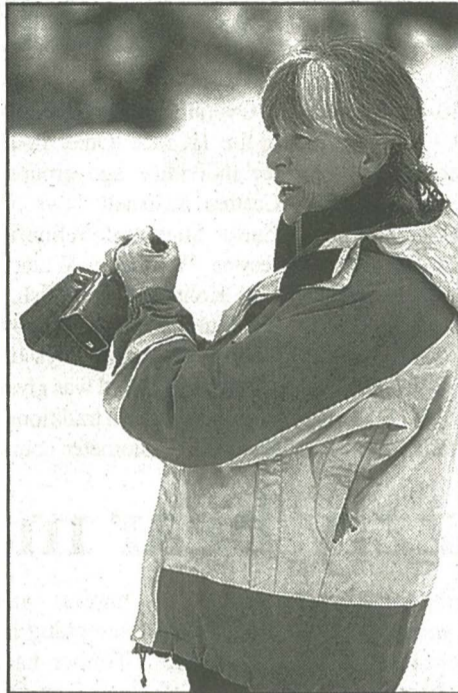
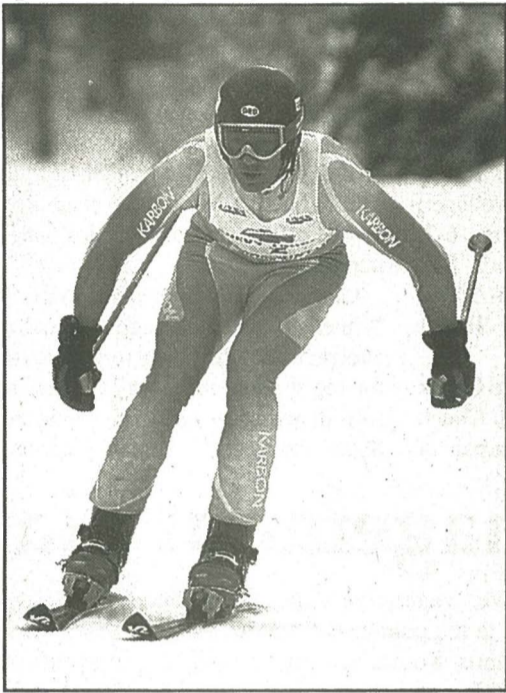


BIG MOUNTAIN



Free heel pro action

TOP LEFT: Glen Gustafson muscles down the course during the World Cup Classic downhill Monday. **TOP RIGHT:** Ringing her cow bells, Suzy Riley cheers the racers on near the finish line. **LEFT:** Cody Thompson flies over a jump during the Classic downhill.

Chris Tucker / Whitefish Pilot

Sabin battles for World Cup, Thompson vies for second

Today a World Cup champion will be declared, but as of Tuesday no competitors had emerged triumphant yet.

Local returning telemarking champion Reid Sabin and Norway's Eirik Rykhus have been taking turns ranking first place during a week of individual races in the World Cup.

Meanwhile, another local racer, Cody Thompson, has been consistently placing second in many of the women's events.

The top three competitors for the women's sprint classic on Jan. 31 were: 1st place, Marta Aberg, Sweden; 2nd place, Cody Thompson, USA; 3rd place, Pia Raita, Finland.

The top three competitors in the men's sprint classic were: 1st place, Reid Sabin, USA; 2nd place, Eirik Rykhus, Norway; 3rd place, Chris Rice, USA.

The top three competitors in the women's giant slalom on Feb. 1 were: 1st place, Line Aas Sandnes, Norway; 2nd place, Cody Thompson, USA; 3rd place, Pia Raita, Finland.

The top three competitors in the men's giant slalom were: 1st place, Mans Aberg, Sweden; 2nd place, Eirik Rykhus, Norway; 3rd place, Tony Burn, Switzerland.

The top three competitors in the women's classic on Feb. 3 and 4 were: 1st place, Line Aas Sandnes, Norway; 2nd place, Marta Aberg, Sweden; 3rd place, Francoise Matter, Switzerland.

The top three competitors in the men's classic were: 1st place Eirik Rykhus, Norway; 2nd place, Reid Sabin, USA; 3rd place, Patrick Leopold, Switzerland.

—Josh Mahan