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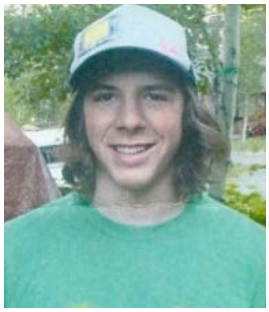
	In 2013, as a 15 year old, **Elyse Burandt** had 20 top-ten finishes and 9 trips to the podium. She was the overall winner of the Northwest Cup Downhill at Mt Bachelor. (Note: she beat the fastest junior man in the race). She was ranked 3rd in age group in Downhill points and 9th in Super G. She took a 2nd and 3rd place in the PNSA U16 qualifiers in Slalom at Mt Spokane. She followed that by winning the next three PNSA U-16 qualifiers at Mt. Hood, and at the Marriot Western Region U16 championships she took 5th Slalom and 3rd in the second Super G. She finished the 2013 season as PNSA division U16 overall season title winner. According to her coach: "Elyse truly has the ability and potential to do great things in ski racing, but also in life. The only thing holding her back from her dreams is finances. Elyse is a very thoughtful, caring, focused ski racer. She works out hard to be the best." Awarded $1000 scholarship sponsored by Skiyente Ski Club, Portland, OR.
	Described by her coach, Scott McGrew, as tenacious, tough, disciplined and capable, **Samantha Busby** consistently pushes her limits in every imaginable way. "She has the capacity to put herself into a place defined by grace, confidence and creativity, a rare and special gift that not many of us possess. " Samantha's gifts have taken her to a 7th place standing in Super G, 5th in Giant Slalom, and 27th in Slalom. Last season she had eleven top-ten finishes and five podiums. Her top accomplishments included a 3rd in U18 Junior Olympics, a 3rd in the Western Region Championships, and a 2nd at the Wes Barson Speed Series Super-G. Samantha has been twice voted Sun Valley Ski Team's Most Valuable Player and also Most Inspiring. Awarded $500 FWSA scholarship.
	Garret Driller finished the 2012-1013 season standing 12th in Super G, 2nd for Giant Slalom and 3rd for Slalom in his age group. He had 13 top-ten finishes with four in the top three. His 2014 goal is to qualify for the U.S. Nationals and place in the top fifteen in the technical disciplines (GS and SL). His coach Lee Schmidt notes that Garret has always had unbelievable natural talent and ability. He always takes everything to the edge, and risks everything to be the very best. In addition to skiing and school, Garret devotes a great deal of time to volunteer activities, including two programs he created himself. Awarded $750 FWSA scholarship.
	**Addison Dvoracek** scored 10th in Giant Slalom and 7th in Slalom for his age group during the 2012-2013 competition season. He reached the podium once out of five top ten finishes. His coach Bradford Saxe reported that Addison worked hard throughout the season to firm up his fundamental skiing and the effort paid off. He qualified for the U18 Nationals and was 11th in the Slalom and 13th in Giant Slalom. At the U.S. Alpine National Championships, he placed 40th in Giant Slalom and 20th in Slalom. Both of these results came from start positions deep in the field. He finished standing top two in his age group Awarded $500 FWSA scholarship.

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	For the 2013-2014 ski season, **Michael Estrella** has set his goals on qualifying for the U-18 Nationals and improving his points standing for both USSA and FIS in all disciplines. His numbers look good as are his chances of meeting his goals. Michael finished last season standing 11th in Downhill, 7th in Super G, 22nd in Giant Slalom, and 17th in Slalom. On top of that, he had 17 top-ten finishes with seven trips to the podium. Last February, he won gold and silver medals at the PNSA U-16 qualifiers. He followed that with a 6th at the U-16 Western Junior Championships and a 6th in Giant Slalom at the U-16 Western Region Championships. At the end of the season, Michael won the PNSA U-16 men's overall season title, for the second consecutive year. His coach, Mark Burandt, lauds him for his dedicated workout routine that allowed him to close the gap and pass up his competition. Awarded $500 FWSA scholarship.
	Hannah Hunsaker had a great ski season in 2013 finishing 20th in Downhill, 17th in Super G, 6th in Giant Slalom, and 7th in Slalom. She finished in the top-ten 10 times with 5 visits to the podium, including a 5th in Slalom at the U18 Nationals. This year Hannah received two awards: the Cathy Swing Memorial Award and the Circle of Excellence Champions Award. The Cathy Swing Memorial award goes to the female athlete that demonstrates leadership and great performance throughout the season. The Circle of Excellence Champions Award is sponsored by the Youth Winter Alliance. Coach Jason Hey wrote: "Hannah's work ethic and inner drive sets her apart from every other athlete I have worked with in the past and she is only starting to hit her stride." Awarded $500 FWSA scholarship.
	Devan LaMere's one trip to the podium came after she took the gold medal in Super G at the Wes Barron Speed Series. She followed her first place finish with three top-five and three top-ten finishes at the U-16 Intermountain Division qualifiers. In addition, she scored an 11th and a 15th place at the U16 Western Championships in Super G and Giant Slalom, respectively. Her coach praises Devan's great work ethic fueled by a strong desire and determination to succeed. She accepts criticism and guidance with eagerness to improve, while maintaining a healthy drive and devotion to her skiing. Awarded $750 FWSA scholarship.
	In 2013, **Lila Lapanja** continued to compete at a World Cup level of performance culminating in her successful defense of her junior combined title at the U.S. Nationals. By the end of the season, she stood 2nd in Super G, 4th in Giant Slalom, and 2nd in Slalom in her year group. Lila contemplates a busy and difficult season in 2013-2014. She will have in excess of 45 FIS starts traveling with the U.S. Ski Team in Canada, Europe, and the U.S. Her focus is to excel in the NORAM race series and to take advantage , if given the chance, in some World Cup races for the ultimate learning experience. Coach Seth McCadam praises her as one of the top technical skiers in the U.S. "She also has proven to be a take-charge person who is able to successfully implement strategies to maximize her potential." Awarded $1250 FWSA scholarship sponsored by the Sierra League and Council.

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	Originally from Chicago, in 2009 then eleven year old **Molly Leavens** moved to Park City, UT, with her mother and older sister so that she could compete in alpine ski racing. Her talent and dedication was immediately apparent, and by 2012 Molly was ranked second overall for her year group. In that year she was invited by the U.S. Ski Team to train at the USSA Team Academy. This year, Molly is back with the Park City team because training costs were too high at the USST Team Academy. The 2012-2013 season was another banner year for Molly. Despite an early injury, she finished the season standing: 4th in Downhill, 2nd in Super G, 10th in Giant Slalom, and 20th in Slalom. She had 12 top-ten finishes and 6 trips to the podium. This year's goal is to win at least one event at the U18 Nationals and compete in the U.S. Nationals. A 4.0 student, Molly is also active in community service. Abby McNulty, Executive Director of the Park City Education Foundation, writes: "I cannot image another high school student who is as thoughtful, goal-oriented, and as disciplined as Molly. On top of that, she excels at her academic and [other} commitments like a champion." Awarded $1000 FWSA scholarship.
	Kerry Brownlie, head U16 coach, considers **Kayleigh MacGregor** to be one of the hardest working athletes on the Mammoth team. She has a solid understanding of the required skills and how to apply those skills to achieve the best results. Off the hill, she takes part in dryland training on a regular basis and is a regular participant in Early Morning Activation before training. During the off-season, Kayleigh can be found at the gym working to build the strength she needs to excel. Kayleigh's hard work brought her to 15th in Downhill and 24th in Super G for her age group. Her achievements are all the more remarkable because Kayleigh is afflicted with cystic fibrosis. Kayleigh's courage and fortitude exemplifies a true champion. Awarded $750 scholarship sponsored by the Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs.
	Erin Maldman's coach, Kerry Brownlie, notes that "Erin has developed into one of those athletes who coaches enjoy working with because of their commitment and passion" As an U16 athlete she has matured progressing to a confident athlete who knows what is required for her success, and who knows how to facilitate it." Last season, Erin had three wins, two 4th places and a 3rd in Super G. She also garnered two 3rd and a 2nd places in Downhill. Her best technical finish was a 5th in Giant Slalom. This year, for the second time, she was honored with Mammoth Mountain's U16 Female Skier of the Year Award in recognition as the team's most successful racer. Erin Aspires to one day coach junior racers. She notes: "Sports promote fitness, self confidence, hard work, dedication, responsibility, and other life skills which are all so important to balanced life styles." (Editor's note: one of the reasons the FWSA works to recognize outstanding alpine ski racers.) Awarded $500 FWSA scholarship.

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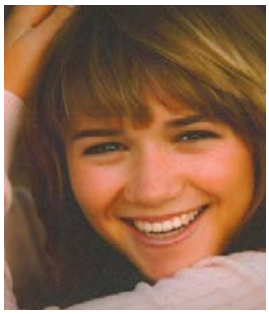
	Coming off a strong year in the speed events, **Kye Moffat** finished in 8th place in Downhill and 15th in Super G. For the 2013-2014 season, Kye has his eyes set on qualifying for the U22 Nationals and the U.S. Nationals. Squaw Valley's head coach, Greg Jones, wrote, "I look forward to his continued success both in his education and athletic career. I think given his track record and the hard work he is putting forth this summer, I believe he can reach his goals." Awarded $1000 scholarship sponsored by the Castro Valley Ski Club, CA.
	Alexandria Oseland finished the 2013 season standing 2nd in Downhill, 6th in Super G, 23rd in Giant Slalom and 12th in Slalom. She had 17 top-ten finishes with 9 trips to the podium. As a first-year U16, she placed 8th overall in the Western U16 Championship series, and 2nd overall in the PNSA U16 standings. At the PNSA Championships, she won both the Slalom and the Giant Slalom races. According to Crystal Mountain's Head FIS coach, Scott Macartney: " Alex is goal-oriented and sees the path she needs to take to reach the next level, even reaching out to me to help her design off-season training programs to get her stronger and fitter for the next year." Alex has been a certified scuba diver since the age of 10 and she holds a black belt in Karate. Awarded $1000 scholarship sponsored by the Northwest Ski Clubs Council.
	Riley Plant has been accepted at Middlebury College in Vermont and is concentrating on technical disciplines (GS and SL) in order to prepare himself for East Coast skiing. He has qualified for the Junior Nationals in each of the last 3 years, and finished the 2013 season standing 9th in Giant Slalom and 33rd in Slalom with 6 top-ten finishes. Jeff Kai, Sugar Bowl Academy head coach, describes Riley as "an exceptional person that is willing to help out wherever it is needed, on the hill helping staff or off the hill in dry-land helping younger athletes learn to do their best." Awarded $750 FWSA scholarship.
	Last season, **Madeline Riffel** mostly competed in ski cross events where she competed in two World Cup Ski Cross events, earned an invitation to the Junior World Championships, and competed in both Swiss and Canadian Nationals. Currently, she is ranked number one in the U.S. and holds the title of National Champion in Ski Cross. In USSA Alpine competition, Madeline focused on speed events where she finished 10th in Downhill and 14th in Super G. Four out of her ten top-ten finishes placed her on the podium. 2014 presents a unique opportunity for Madeline to become an Olympian. Her coach, Mark Brownlie attributes her success to her athletic talent and tremendous work ethic. Awarded $500 FWSA scholarship.

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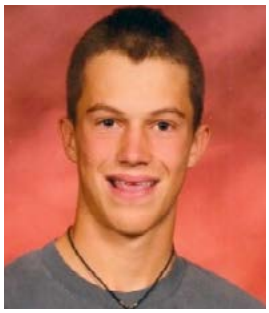
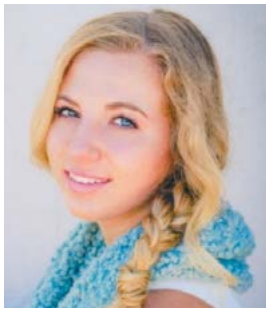
	Erin Ronald's standings belie her ability. In 2013, she had 12 finishes in the top-twenty and three top-ten finishes as well. Unfortunately, she fractured her tibia in February 2012 and was side-lined for the remainder of the season as well as the summer. She returned to active skiing in November 2012 and her coach reports that she showed great improvement in both technical and tactical skills. Her coach predicts that her dedication and hard work will produce great results. Erin has set her sights on qualifying for both the U18 Junior Olympic and the U18 Nationals. Awarded $500 FWSA scholarship.
	Coach Kevin Francis states that "**Lucas Underkoffler** is a talented, driven athlete who competes in skiing and baseball at the national level. He also plays quarterback for his high school football team. His best discipline is Downhill where he holds 22nd place in his year group. In 2013 he finished in the top-10 seven times with one visit to the podium. His goals for 2014 include qualifying for the U18 Junior Olympics and the U18 Nationals. Awarded $500 FWSA scholarship.
	Over the past four years, **Alexa Wehsener** has made steady progress. In 2013 she scored six top-ten finishes including a third place at the Far West Finals in April, 2013. Coach Peter Korfiatis notes that "she constantly accepts challenges, makes sound and intelligent decisions and will be a leader in the face of adversity." Awarded $700 scholarship sponsored by the San Diego Council of Ski Clubs.
	Cai Yamamoto has his sights set on the U.S. Ski Team and he has the potential of fulfilling this dream. At the end of the 2013 ski season, he stood 6th in Downhill, 13th in Super G, and 8th in Giant Slalom. During the same season, he racked up ten top-ten finishes including 6 trips to the podium. He won the gold medal for Giant Slalom and finished second overall at the Western Region U22/U18 championships. He also took 27th place at the NorAM Downhill, an excellent finish for a junior racer. Roger Taggart, the Mission Ridge FIS coach, praises Cai for his exemplary sportsmanship. "He is supportive of his teammates and fellow competitors….Cai is always available at training and home races to help with set up, tear down, and anything else that need to be done." Awarded $1000 scholarship sponsored by the Mountain High Snowsports Club of Portland, OR.