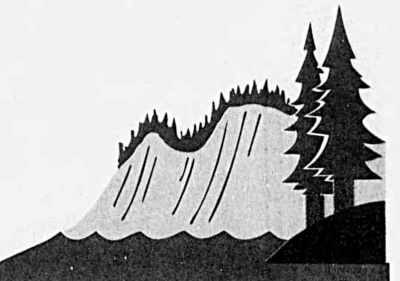
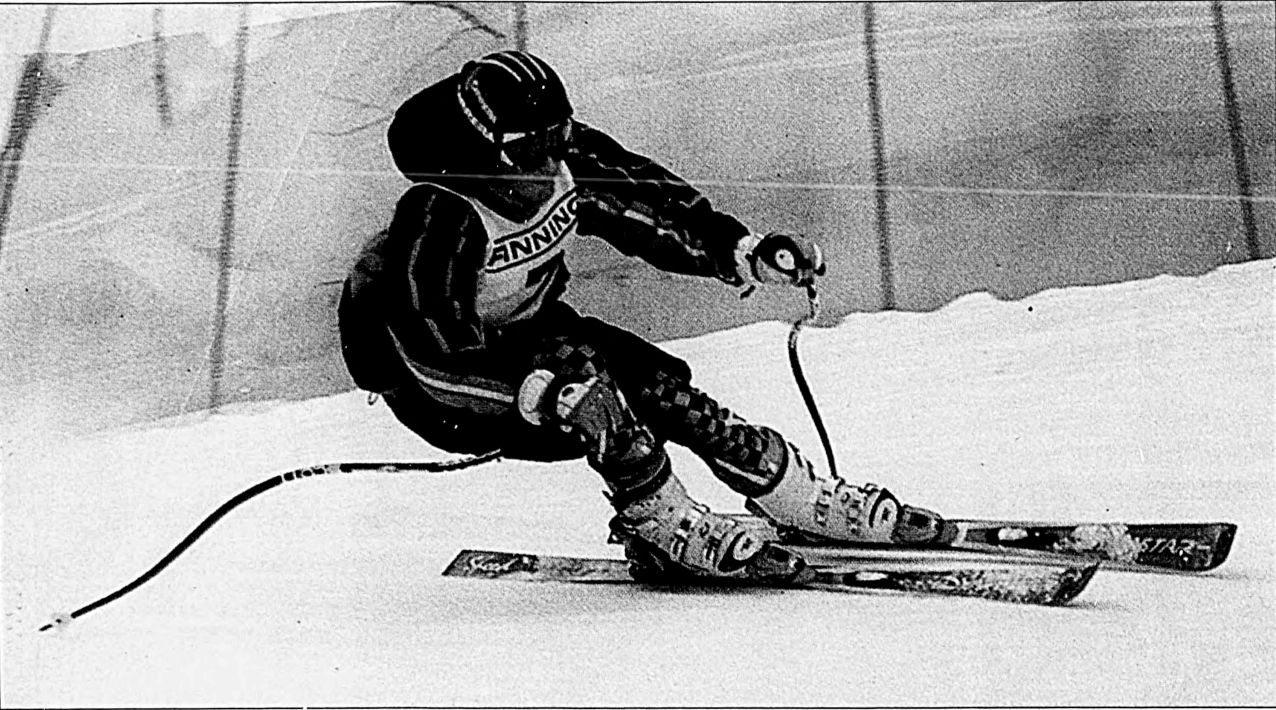


COMMUNITY EXTRA



Purden Downhill



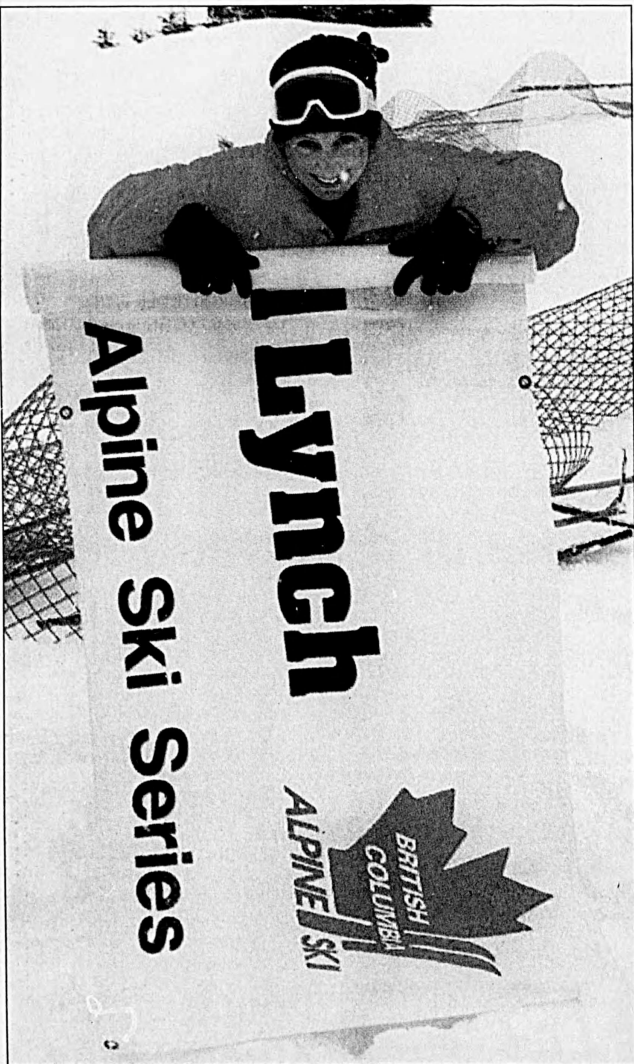
In a ski season marred by a lack of snow, who would have thought there would be too much snow for the weekend's 29th annual Purden Downhill?

But it happened. After a 17-centimetre dump of the white stuff, about 60 course workers spent all morning Saturday clearing the course, which allowed a few runs to take place, with the plan to finish the races Sunday. But five centimetres more Saturday night made the course too dangerous for a downhill.

Focus

Citizen photos
by DAVE MILNE

Talla Christianson, left, streaks down the hill during a training run Wednesday for the 29th annual Purden Downhill. Smithers coach Michel Bernier, below, explains to his athletes that the race has been cancelled.



Volunteer Anne Muirhead rolls up one of the sponsor's banners after the Sunday race was cancelled and the course was dismantled.

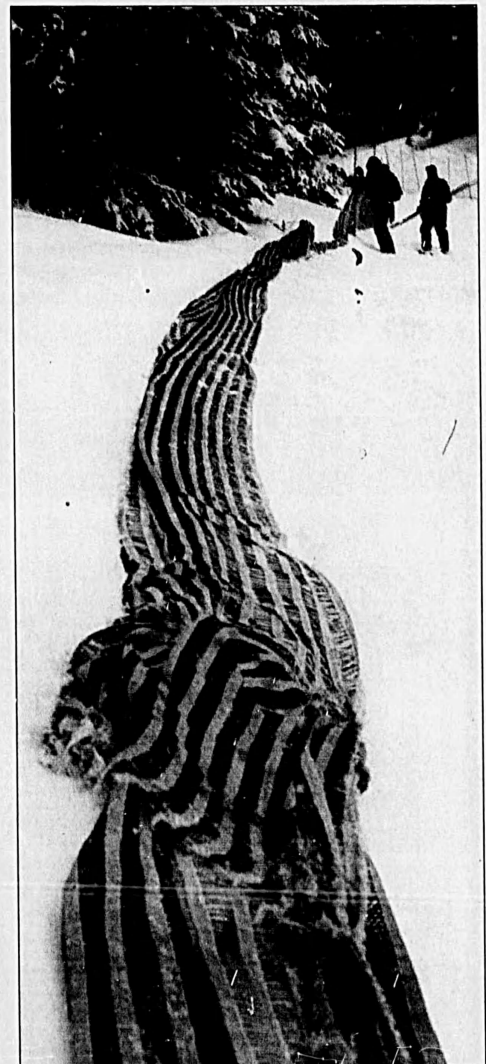


Kelly Henderson and Collin Degeer, above, were points leaders in what little competition and training was actually held this past weekend at Purden. A large amount of snowfall Friday and Saturday made the course too dangerous for the downhill competition to take place.

Competitors, left, tear down the fencing surrounding the start area. A volunteer skis past a race course marker, below, with rolls of fencing in hand after the race was cancelled and the course fencing was taken down.



Competitor Peter Mitchell of Nelson carries his spare pair of skis for a trip down the hill and an early start home after the race was cancelled.



Workers take fencing down after the race was cancelled.