Athlete of the Week

Jason A. Caplain Staff Writer

Senior Brenda Davis from Orlando, Florida, has led the Lady Quakers' recent surge, earning her the title of Athlete of the Week.

Davis, a center, has put up some incredible numbers on the board, which include: 24 points and 16 rebounds against Virginia Wesleyan, 21 points and 13 rebounds when the team challenged Eastern Mennonite, and her 20/20 performance, when she scored 24 points and retrieved 20 rebounds against Bridgewater.

When questioned about the void the team will have to fill next year without her presence, she brushed it off. "There is no doubt in my mind the team [can remain competitive.] There are people now that could replace us [Davis and teammate Cat Herring]."

Davis said "I can't say enough good about my teammates, coaches....and fans." With support from all three, she says the team's chances at the nationals are "very good" and she looks forward to the added pressure of the competitions.

Davis, a physical education major with sports medicine and sports management minors, hopes to keep her options open after graduation and is not ruling out graduate school. She would love to coach either basketball or volleyball on the high school or college level

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Moe shines in medalwinning performances

Will Cooper Staff Writer

Tommy Moe, a downhill skier from Palmer, Alaska, astonished the fans packed along the slopes of Lillehammer last Sunday when he took the gold with a time of 1:45.75, beating out home favorite Kjetil Andre Aamodt of Norway by a mere .04 seconds. His medal-winning run came right after Aamodt's second-place performance.

The competition for the top three spots was close—the next 14 places clocked times less than a second behind Moe's time. In all, Moe beat out 55 other skiers.

Moe also received \$15,000 for his gold medal from the United States' newly established moneyfor-medals program. Moe, apparently unaware of the program, exclaimed in his Sunday post-race press conference, "All right,...I think that news is the best I've heard today."

Moe had little time to celebrate his victory. On Monday he was in competition again in the downhill portion of the Nordic combined skiing competition. Amazingly, the highly questioned U.S. ski team notched yet another shocking performance with Kyle Rasmussen finishing in second and Tommy Moe in the third position. The second half of this competition concludes with the slalom on Friday, Feb. 25.

The primary threat in the second half of the Nordic combined competition will be Aamodt, who is looking to possibly take home five medals this Olympics. He is currently in sixth but only .54 seconds behind the leader. Aamodt is recognized as the top contender in the slalom. In this event, time is a more important consideration than place, as the times of the two events are simply added to figure the overall winners.

The United States' downhill team, consisting of Kyle Rasmussen of California and A.J. Kitt of New York, among others, has been dealt a lot of criticism for its mediocre performances in pre-Olympic competition. A particularly snide Sports Illustrated article labeled the team, "a lead-footed snow plow brigade." After Monday's performance, Sports Illustrated may need to enlist the aid of an "Olympic tug-of-war crew" to help remove its foot from its mouth.

Our Olympic ski team may not have the tradition and consistency of many of the European teams such as Norway, but the desire to win and the competitiveness to ignore infuriating remarks made by people from our own country have shown through at the most important time. Their hard work has paid off--Tommy Moe has a gold medal around his neck to show for it.

Some of the information for this article was obtained from USA Today.

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