



"To Turn is to Admit Defeat"

Saturday, February 6, Forty-four skiers show up at Houston IAH with enough luggage to fill a 747. Group check-in went very well until **Carole Sahni** asked if all her bags were tagged. **Dana Wardell** and **Janet Pickell** won the booby prize for being the last two arrivals. **Alice Luna** said she was tired after running 22 miles early that morning. Our last minute fill-in for a cancellation, **Robert Baker** is happy to get on the trip. **Tim Malone** is the first one to lose his bright pink SCSC nametag. Some of the group waits in Continental's President's Club - while others relax and eat the cookies at the gate.

On the plane, we pulled the traditional "wave the safety instruction booklet" act and got a nice laugh from the flight attendants. They were also nice enough to announce **Jim Icenhower's** birthday, so we all sang for him. The flight was smooth, with a beautiful view of Pike's Peak as we flared for our landing, when, "BANG" - we dropped like a rock the last few feet. Someone asked the pilot, "crosswinds or wind shear?" and he said "Bad Landing!!"

Like magic, **Carole's** bag did arrive along with 5 coolers, and a large box of goodies. Thanks to a large turbo bus, a friendly driver named **Bernie**, and lots of helpers, we are on our way. Whoa - we have to stop for water! The wrong cooler is buried underneath and we have a thirsty group. So we pull into Safeway for a quick provisions stop. 20 minutes later, everyone is on, except for **Pete** and **Pat O'Hare**. Here they come, lugging groceries for the condo.

We pulled into Breckenridge Pine Ridge Condos about 2 hours later. The keys are passed out and the pile of luggage in the snow disappears. Apparently the Condo

comportment plan (who gets what bed?) written by **Ken Spalding** worked OK. Everyone seemed to be happy.

Saturday evening, we all gathered in the party room to feast on Windy City Pizza, beer, wine, soft drinks, and snacks. **John** and **Nancy Burk** joined us

after driving up the previous day. Our mixer to find out who and how many people had February birthdays resulted in **Mary Favre** winning a Taos yellow bandanna. A miracle occurred when all the lift tickets were distributed, and it came out correct. **Steve Slade** announced that he left his return airplane ticket on the plane. The group who needed skies headed off to Blue River Sports. Some tested the bus system to go to City Market to buy vittles for the week.

Sunday, February 7: Sunny and Cloudy at Breckenridge. The slopes had lots of snow after 4 weeks of steady snow since early January. **Roger** and **Carole Sahni** signed up for several lessons. The rest of us headed up on Peak 9 to warm up. The runs were great and except for accidentally getting up on Peak 10 to do Centennial, no one complained. Everyone gathered for lunch at Peak 9 and then split up into groups for the afternoon. The first gathering of the "To turn is to admit defeat" group, **Glenn Berger**, **Morris Covin**, **Frank Adams**, **Arlen Isham**, **Tim Malone**, **Janet McKenzie**, **Chris Urbanczyk**, **Bob Veitinger**, **John Burk**, **Gloria Hodge**, **Ken** and **Natalie Woodard**, did some serious vertical working the Peak 8 quad in the afternoon. Others, including **condomates Carl** and **Mary Favre**, **Mimi** and **Mark Markel**, skied the Peak 9 runs.

Jerry Velasquez, **Pete O'Hare**, and **Jo Beth Isham** experienced difficulties making their way on the Union trail to get from Peak 10 to Peak 8 to ski back to the condo on 4 O'Clock Run. "Is it worth it, or are we confused?" "It was awful, absolutely awful," says **Jo Beth Isham**. **Natalie** and **Ken Woodard** won the prize for most margaritas downed during the evening's hot tub ritual. **Natalie** had no dinner and was out by 8:00.

Monday, February 8: Sunny and partly

cloudy. Off to Vail. A bit of confusion about where to get on the bus resulted in a exaggerated 1.5 mile up hill walk for about 30 of the 36 people. It was time for a "No Whining Button". **Leigh Plough** got her nametag back. Over at Vail, at the top, the "To Turn is to Admit Defeat" group, **Frank Adams**, **Glenn Berger**, **Morris Covin**, **Alice Luna**, **Tim Malone**, **John Burk**, **Gloria Hodge**, **Alice Luna**, **Natalie** and **Ken Woodard**, braved the back bowls, and headed for China Bowl. They admitted defeat. Once they got there, it was great. **Joe Selle** continues to ski for free as a seasoned citizen.

Back at Breckenridge, **Karen Icenhower** fell while watching her Husband **Jim** ski the self-timed course. **Jane Shoppell** and **Paula Selle** have started on a week of shopping and exploring Breckenridge. **Carol Weise** won the jewelry acquisition-shopping award for the week. **Paula** specialized in assessing the top dining spots in town. She and **Joe** sampled several during the week. **Gloria Salinas** also stayed at Breckenridge along with **Britt Walters** and **Dana Wardell** and had the misfortune to cross her ski tips on her second run, falling forward with a double ski release, still ending up with an ACL and MCL knee problem. Bad luck accident of the week. "Ask **Gloria Salinas** who Tag Heuer is!"

After lunch at Vail, many went over to Game Creek Bowl. **Bob Veitinger**, **Susan Gaucher**, and **Chris Urbanczyk** went to Outer Mongolia in the Back Bowls. On the lifts, **Jerry Velasquez** and **Frank Adams** were providing advice to the lovelorn to some of the single women. **Arlen Isham**, **Glenn Berger**, **John Burk**, **Janet McKenzie**, and **Morris Covin** really finished up a 30,000-foot vertical day by doing some "swoop" runs. **Pete O'Hare** had serious cramps in his quads while finishing up the day at Vail.

Apré skiing was particularly good at Pepi's where **John Burk** had saved a prime spot. **Ken** and **Natalie Woodard**, **Jerry Velasquez**, **Arlen** and **Jo Beth Isham**, **Pete** and **Pat O'Hare** won an award for being loudest table on one particular sing along. Others, including **Gloria Hodge**, **Patty Loegering**, **Susan Gaucher**, **Morris Covin**, **Tim Malone**, **Janet McKenzie**, and **Ken** and **Marcy Spalding**, opted for street-side coffee. **Alice Luna** made a fast-paced power-

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buying trip to nearby shops, quietly watched by **Bob Veitinger** and **Chris Urbanczyk**.

To make it up to the group for the morning walks uphill, the T.C. got the bus let us off right at the Pine Ridge Condos.

Tuesday, February 9: Another beautiful sunny day. Most of the group skied down

were the best performing of the several sets tried. **Marcy** and **Patty Loegering** decide they ski alike and should have met earlier in the week for lessons.

It was reported that **Morris Covin** was starting the fireplace in the condo using napkins lighted off a red-hot electric stove.

Britt Walters has been very helpful to his injured wife **Gloria**.

Wednesday, February 10: sunny and race day at Breckenridge. **Marc Markel**, race director and **Ken Spalding** did a great job of getting things organized after Breckenridge lost the paperwork. **Jane Shoppell** was sure

Later in the day, it started to snow. **Chris Urbanczyk** wonders how anybody can get lost on 4 O'clock Run? P.S. - it is a one way trip ending at a road. Over at Keystone, **Carole** and **Roger Sahni** experience serious wind shutting down the Gondola. They almost had a free ride down on snowmobiles. **Jerry Velasquez** has been identified as the domestic breakfast king in condo 6C. **Frank Adams**, **Tim Malone** and **Morris Covin** just don't have his skills. **Bob Simpson** cooked dinner for his wife **Mary** and condomates, and the reaction was a hearty "Yum, Yum." **Bob** and **Mary Simpson** were also the most casual skiers, out late and in early. **Carol Weise** is also a casual skier, getting to the slopes near noon most days. **Karen Icenhower** has excelled in teaching Skippo among other games to her condomates.

Thursday, February 11: was a blizzard, cold, windy day. It was so bitter cold in Keystone that **Frank Adams**, **Jane McKimmens**, and **Janet McKenzie** were seen IN the gondola, IN the warming hut having hot chocolate, IN having lunch, and IN the bus going back to Breckenridge. **Tim Malone** and **Gloria Hodge** called it a day early and departed for Breckenridge and the hot tub. The "ladies of the brace", **Janet McKenzie**, and **Mimi Markel**, protecting past knee injuries, were riding up a lift with



Four O'clock Run to the bus and headed for Copper Mt. After all the comments by **TC Arlen Isham** to be careful, he slid backwards slowly while standing on a green run, on his second run, did a wishbone split and torn a hamstring. Moments later, he fell and bruised his ribs. For the rest of the week, he watched scary daytime TV.

Marc Markel was checking out the Copper Mt. map at lunch as group leader. Normally a map is folded. His was all wadded up and it was already missing a section. Should we be nervous?? **Marc Markel**, **Mimi Markel**, **Jo Beth Isham**, and **Leigh Plough** skied the mountain together that afternoon and ended up on a few black runs. **Jerry Velasquez** was reported on the phone for an extensive period at lunch. Where was he?!!

Robert Baker would always start out with a group to ski. One minute, he was with the group, and the next, no where to be seen. After several runs without him, he would reappear, skiing like **Stein Erickson** in slow motion. Where he went on his "disappearances" remains a mystery to this day.

Back at Breckenridge, **Marcy Spalding** began a series of lessons, while ATC husband **Ken** joined **Joe Selle** and **Terry Chamness** touring Peak 10 runs. **Terry** tested several high-performance demo skis, and suggested that **Salomon X-Screams**

that **John Kelly**, her husband, was going to win a medal in NASTAR. After waxing his skis the night before, and just before the race reviewing techniques to get the edge, he did win a bronze.

Ken Spalding and **Tim Malone** received silver medals. Bronze medals were won by **Ken** and **Natalie Woodard**, **Glenn Berger**, **John Kelley**, **Janet McKenzie**, **John Burk**, **Morris Covin**, **Frank Adams**, **Chris Urbanczyk**, **Jo Beth Isham** and **Joe Selle**. **Ken Woodard** and **Natalie Woodard** were the fastest male and female skiers. Winners of the special closest to the blind time race were **Mimi Markel** and **Steve Slade**. The most improved racer between two runs was **Nancy Burk**.

The SCSC Black Challenger medals were won by **Bob Veitinger**, **Jerry Velasquez**, **Robert Baker**, **Gloria Hodge**, **Carl Favre**, **Marc Markel**, **Steve Slade**, **Pete O'Hare**, **Mary Favre**, **Natalie Woodard** and **Mimi Markel**. **Pat O'Hare** won a Green Challenger Medal and **Nancy Burk** received a Race for the Cup Medal.



Jerry Velasquez when the suggestion was made that the guys needed a similar group, perhaps called the "Men of the Cup". **Joe Selle** and **Ken Spalding** gave up the back bowls and opted for skiing the wind-protected front slopes after lunch, joined by **Natalie Woodard**, **Janet McKenzie**, and **Frank Adams**. "One last

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run" turned into several delightful cruisers up until the 3:30 KAB bus departed for Breckenridge. Natalie left early and was later found in the Last Lift bar on the stage playing her knockers. There may have been a bumper sticker on her butt also. Finally the group showed them how to do "Friends in Low Places".

Arlen Isham has been getting stimulated by electro therapy and Jerry Springer TV, while his wife is out skiing.

Glenn Berger, Chris Urbanczyk, Robert Veitinger, Susan Gaucher, Patricia Loegering, Tim Malone, Morris Covin, Steve Slade and Gloria Hodge were known to have spent some time visiting the nightlife of Breckenridge. They reported working on "Triangles" such as women, fast, loose, and easy. You can have two of the three. Both Alice Luna and Susan Gaucher are physical fitness buffs and non-stop skiers, who hate to stop for lunch or lose out on any activities of the day. Shouldn't two hours of sleep be enough for anyone?

Friday, February 12:- Sunny and partly cloudy. Glenn Berger, Bob Veitinger, Chris Urbanczyk, and Susan Gaucher head off to Beaver Creek. The rest of the group scatters to their favorite mountain, mostly at Breckenridge for the final day of skiing. Pat O'Hare joined the "Ladies of the Brace" when she fell on the Beaver Run crazy moving carpet chairlift. That thing is a hazard. Morris Covin was coming out of the trees and launching off a jump, he got too far back on his skis and did a full "BUTT SPLAT". After about five minutes of assessment of broken or misplaced body parts, he skied off, with a tad bit of difficulty getting on and off the lifts. Steve Slade does NASTAR again and won his Bronze Medal.

John Kelly and Jim Icenhower snowboard on Friday and spend most of their time on their face or their butts.

Ken Spalding, Arlen Isham, and Janet McKenzie make one last shopping trip to the City Market. Ken cooks away most of the afternoon adjusting for the altitude difference, where it takes 4 hours to cook the lasagna from Sam's. A big dinner of lasagna, chicken Florentine, salad, and French bread with lots of drinks finishes our trip to Breckenridge. The race medals won on Wednesday were distributed with

applause for their successes. Special awards were give to (Hard Luck) Gloria alinas; (Last to airport) Janet Pickell and Dana Wardell; (Hot Tub Margaritas) Natalie and Ken Woodard; (Downhill Kamikaze woman) Janet McKenzie; (Downhill Kamikaze man) John Burk; (Vertical feet woman) Alice Luna; (Vertical feet man) Glenn Berger; (Race Director) Marc Markel; (John Birch Tree Attraction) Morris Covin; (Summit County Terrain Master) Bob Veitinger; (Hold on to Ticket) Steve Slade; (Never Cold) Gloria Hodge; and (Demo master) Terry Chamness.

Saturday, February 13:- Another sunny day. It is all over but the shouting, packing, stuffing, and loading. Patricia Loegering has left us in the middle of the night and headed for Vail. Is that Bob and Mary Simpson going to breakfast at 9:15? We are loading the bus at about 10:00. They do fine. The group also had zero phone calls to the condos, great job and all keys turned back. Our last person on the bus is Carole Sahni who says, "I thought we were leaving at 10:30"! After a relaxed trip on another bus, we arrive back at Colorado Springs. Steve Slade gets his new return airline ticket, and we unwind on the last leg - our flight back to Bush Intercontinental. All bags and bodies arrive safely, and amidst good-byes, all agree the trip was a success. B. Jane McKimens became engaged on her return to Houston.