

## Press Release

## November 30, 2005

West Yellowstone Suprertour Sprints – Thrills, Spills and Surprises

Team Rossi Racers snatched podium places in both the women's and men's sprints with Karin Camenisch taking third and Torin Koos claiming second and Eli Enman surprising spectators and the field to throw his ski over the line for third.

With an approaching storm, cloudy skis and dropping temperatures kept the course slick and quick throughout the heats. The course, a Supertour sprinter's favorite, was lengthened from its preliminary heat length of 970 meters to 1.3 K for the Quarters, Semis and Finals – suiting some, frustrating others.

Rossignol Coach and Racer Jon Engen was pleased with his racers' performances with Rossi packing the top 10 in both the men's and women's sprints. Engen said, "This team has developed a good core group, who motivate each other – when one team member is in a winning position, it raises the others to a higher level of performance. They will not all place on the same day, but they are supportive of each other and willing to do whatever it takes like rotating the fastest skis to help a teammate in a winning position. The team is building excellent momentum for the upcoming season."

The men's Final included Rossignol skiers Koos and Enman, Leif Zimmermann and Andrew Newell. Down the spectator-lined finishing stretch, USST skier Koos and Zimmermann were ski and ski until the final thrilling thrust over the line with Zimmermann taking the win. Just behind a similar duel developed between Enman and USST skier Andy Newell, with Enman claiming a suspenseful 3rd place finish. Enman said, I had three photo finishes during the heats today, squeaking by in to each round. The longer course suited my strength of stamina skiing. The Rossi skis were amazing, lightening fast. I actually had borrowed my teammates Kevin Hochtl's skis because they had more camber and provided a powerful bounce." Collin Mahood, who placed 6th added, "I liked the longer course because the racing did not actually start until the final finishing hill." Kevin Hochtl rounded out the Rossi results in 7<sup>th</sup>.

In the women's sprints, Rossi speedster Camenisch continued her podium placing ways, finishing 3<sup>rd</sup>, just behind Wendy Wagner in 1<sup>st</sup> and Laura Valaas in 2<sup>nd</sup> and edging out Alison Crocker in 4<sup>th</sup>. Camenisch admitted, "I was a little disappointed with my finish, I had my sights on a win. I think the course was too long to allow for a pure power sprint style. The women racers kill each other the entire length of the course, during each and every heat. The men raced smarter, saving it for the very end." In the Final B Heat Rossi skiers Natasha Naryshkina and Brooke Hovey surged for the line snatching 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> respectively.

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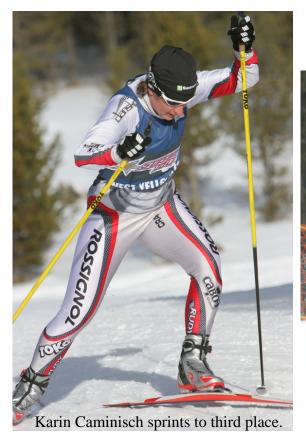














US Ski Team and Rossignol skier Torin Koos leads sprint semifinals with Team Rossignol's Colin Mahood hot on his heels.



Eli Enman of Huntington, VT leads pack in the semi final to take third overall in the sprint finals.