



Future Olympians gathered in the winter of 1997-98. Back left is Carl Van Loan; back right is Jed Hinkley and Coach Tim Norris. Front left is a young Nick Fairall.

Olympics from page 44

Carl Van Loan's Nordic combined career took off during his time at Proctor, when he was named the Junior National Champion in cross country skiing as well as the Junior National Champion in Nordic combined skiing. Immediately following his graduation from Proctor, Van Loan moved to Steamboat Springs, Colorado and joined the US Nordic Combined Ski team.

Between 1998 and 2006, Van Loan represented the United States in four world championship races and two Olympic games and won twelve cross country ski races in the World Cup B Nordic Combined circuit, including a gold medal at the 1999 World Junior Championships and a silver medal at the 2000 World Junior Championships. Van Loan now runs his own personal training business and continues to give back to the Nordic ski community as a coach.

Jed Hinkley, a native of Andover and son of long-time Proctor faculty members Bert and Dani Hinkley, grew up competing with Van Loan (a native of Webster) before joining him on Proctor's Nordic and Ski Jumping teams during their shared time at Proctor in the late 1990s.

Hinkley competed on the World Cup B Nordic combined circuit with Van Loan and also qualified for the 2002 US Olympic Nordic Combined team. In addition to his bid to the 2002 Olympics, Hinkley's seven-year stint on the US Nordic Combined Ski team included four World Junior Championship Teams, the same 1999 and 2000 World Junior Championship results as Van Loan, and the 2003 World Championship team.

Hinkley is now a high school chemistry and biomedical sciences teacher in Aurora, Colorado, where he continues to cycle and ski.

Now Fairall's journey has come full circle, as he recently visited the Andover Elementary/Middle School and spoke to students about the challenges he has had to overcome during his competitive ski career. Fairall shared similar thoughts with the Proctor community last Friday, highlighting the devastation he felt after being the last athlete cut from the 2010 Olympic Ski Jumping team.

"I was crushed, but was also surrounded by friends and family who

helped me get over that devastation and recommit to my goals." Fairall went on to implore Proctor's students not to be put off by adversity, but rather to embrace it, to work through it, and to allow it to make you a stronger person in the end.

While Van Loan, Hinkley, and Fairall represent three Olympians trained by Tim Norris at the Proctor Ski Area and the Andover Outing Club, former Proctor snowboarder racer Sarah (Hamor) Greensfield '00 also represented the United States at the 2002 Salt Lake Olympics when she foreran for the Women's Snowboard Racing team. Following her years racing at Proctor, Greensfield went on to race competitively on the national level before being placed as an alternate on the 2002 Women's Snowboard Racing team.

Greensfield has gone on to have a successful career as an entrepreneur and business consultant living in southern New Hampshire's seacoast region.

Additionally, fellow Andover resident Chris Lamb (ski jumping) narrowly missed the 2014 Olympic team, while Kris Freeman (Nordic skiing) will represent the United States and Andover in the Olympics for the fourth time after competing in the 2002, 2006, and 2010 Olympics, a truly remarkable accomplishment for the 33-year-old who competes as a distance Nordic skier despite having Type 1 Diabetes.

Congratulations to all Proctor alumni who have represented the United States at the Olympic levels. Thank you for the example you have set for current athletes, and for recognizing the role Proctor played in your careers!

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JON CHAMPAGNE
and the
ANDOVER ROAD CREW.
You keep us safe!
Thank you!
*The AE/MS
School Community*



Senior Project at MVHS Focuses on Food Drive

Brooke Ellis involves AE/MS students

By Brooke Ellis, MVHS '14

Every senior at Merrimack Valley High School is required to do what is referred to as The Senior Project. Going into it, all I knew was that I wanted to use this opportunity to help those in need in my community.

After researching hunger in the United States, I found that although there are many federal and state organizations that help fight hunger on a large level, the importance of a food pantry on a local level is huge. With that in mind, I challenged myself to do this project.

For me, helping to organize a food drive at Andover Elementary and Middle School meant that I would have the opportunity to both work with and also involve the students in doing some good for our community. The obvious problem facing food pantries is that food is

constantly running out, therefore there is always a need for food to be donated.

On Friday, February 7, I had the privilege of visiting an assembly at AE/MS to share with the whole school the importance of food pantries and the details of my project. To spice things up a bit for them, I made it a competition among classes. The prize for the class that brings in the greatest number of items to contribute will be an ice cream party.

Food will be collected in each classroom from February 17 to March 7. At the end of the food drive, students will have the opportunity to bring the food from the school to the food pantry and stock the shelves. Hopefully, this experience will open the students' eyes to see the problems surrounding hunger in our community.

I am very thankful to have the outstanding help and support of the staff at AE/MS.

Basketball from page 42

ond game of the night. In the first quarter, the girls played well, showing great defense that helped them pulled ahead by four points. With scoring led by Kate Barton and Lexi Emeny and great rebounding by Hannah French, the Eagles held off a hard-charging Ashland team in the second quarter. The team in the second half continued to move the ball well and push it up the court, pulling ahead by 10 and never looking back. The final score was 28-19.

The Andover Eagles hosted the second annual basketball invitational tournament. The teams consisted of Campton, Ashland, Indian River, and our own seventh grade boys playing for the Eagles.

The boys started out well, taking on Campton. With a game filled with lead changes, the Eagles fell to a four-point loss. The boys rallied and came back to win the next two games, sending them into the finals to take on Campton once again.

Campton had not lost a game all day. But the Eagles would not be denied. They pulled together as a team, with great passing and hustle on defense,

and jumped out to an early lead. The lead grew in the second half, and the Eagles pulled away with a 14 point win over Campton. With that final effort, the boys were able to crown themselves champions of the day.

The season ended on a very high note for both boys teams. The boys coaches noticed the improvement in the team's defense and solid offense that pushed them forward to show growth in the teams abilities on the court. The coaching staff was very impressed with their teams' work ethic in practice to improve their basketball skills.

The girls had a very terrific season. They did this with a true team effort. Each member on the team contributed to a successful season. With great sportsmanship and hustle, the girls team had an enjoyable season to watch.

All teams hope to finish the season with their traditional challenge game against the parents, followed by a potluck dinner and awards ceremony.

The Andover basketball coaches would like to thank the fabulous parents for all their help in making this another great season for the students.

ANDOVER FOOD PANTRY

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