

# French skier invades state



PHOTO Life Magazine

Jean-Claude Killy: A lamb on stage, a tiger on the slopes.

by Linda Sorenson

Blueprint Staff Writer

The lean young man with the rakish grin and the shaggy hair standing before us was not poised atop a summit ready to descend. He wore no sleek ski suit. He wore no skis. There was no snow and there was not even a mountain nearby on which to display his talents. A spotlight flashed and the idol of thousands of devoted skiers stood on the bare stage at Dayton's Oct. 7, Jean-Claude

Killy. A murmur shot through the audience of about 45 people as he settled on a stool alongside of the moderator, Robert T. Smith, columnist for the Minneapolis Tribune.

Killy appeared at ease, despite Smith's before-the-show revelation that the skier was a bit shy. He casually stuffed his hands into the pockets of his suit as a short film on skiing in Chile was viewed. The film portrayed Killy at his best, winning the combined championship plus streaking to a record 1:36, the

fastest downhill in history.

Born in Val D'Isere, France, a small village noted for its skiing, Killy grew up with the simple ambition to ski every day. He commented on the town's attitude, grinning, "If you don't ski, you're not normal."

He entered his first race at six, patterning himself after his next-door neighbor, the first French Olympic champion in 1948. He first participated in the Olympics in 1961.

Smith briefly commented on athletes winning solely for their country and Killy tended to disagree. "You are skiing for yourself, not for France, America or any other country. I just do my own thing."

Hands shot up from the audience as they opened the question and answer session. Killy led off by explaining the method of preparing skis for a race for a young boy. First an hour is spent filing the edges. Finally 15 minutes apiece are spent on oiling the bottom of the skis and then waxing them.

He found handmade skis the best and used 50 pairs at the Olympic games. When the item of cost was brought up, Killy stated he didn't pay for them and Smith countered by crying out, "You mean you steal them?" Killy chuckled and replied, "I used to go to the factory and make them myself." He estimated the top pro skis could run over \$200.00, with boots up to \$170.00.



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Killy has also tried a hand at car racing but found he wasn't as skilled as he had hoped. He participated in the race at LeMans remarking somewhat dejectedly, "I was not very good, not good enough to be top."

Killy also is interested in designing new skis, emphasizing racing, although they may be used by anyone. He has been designing them now for about nine months.

Killy found the transition from blazing down a mountain to motivating on dry land difficult, joking "I've just started to walk and it's not so easy."

One problem he encountered was staying in shape after the end of his rigorous daily schedule. He grinned shyly, admitting he had gained some weight and was planning to go back into training.

Several people were surprised of Killy's retirement at 26 from the exciting world of competitive skiing. His walls are brimming with medals gleaned from events all over the world, including the three famous gold medals captured at Grenoble in 1968. Killy displayed his dazzling grin once again acknowledging his achievements but retorted, "I quit because after three gold medals it's very hard to do something better."

## Around Ramsey High School

With skiing just around the corner, members of Ski Club are busy readying themselves for the slopes.

This year's club is operating under a new format. The ski lovers are divided into two groups; the executive board and a general group.

The executive board, led by president Doug Liloquist, senior, is composed of about 40 skiers. They meet every Monday to plan trips, work on publicity, and decide on entertainment for general meetings.

General meetings are held about once a month for any interested students. Some form of entertainment is always provided for this event in the small gym.

\* \* \*

Hoping to stake their "claim to fame," the choir has chosen Patrice Guston, Kathy Harpole, Ed Vivian, and Pat McGuigan to represent Ramsey at the District 14 contest to be held in January.

\* \* \*

Day Brightener

Question: What do you get if you cross an elephant with a rhinoceros?  
Answer: "Elephino!!!"

## FOR TROUBLED TEENS

# Y.E.S. is the answer

by Karen Jarvis

Blueprint Staff Writer

Thrown out by parents? Call 338-7588. Trouble at school? Call 338-7588. About to commit suicide? On a bad trip? Lonely, and want someone to 'rap' with? Call 338-7588. There are five phones with three emergency lines, which are open from 12 noon to 4 a.m. everyday.

With the number goes a name: YOUTH EMERGENCY SERVICE (Y.E.S.). Y.E.S. provides all types of legal and social services for youth. Volunteers handle only counseling calls, other calls are referred to professional people in the community.

On the West Bank, at 623 Cedar Avenue, above the Coffee House Extremepore and an unkempt bar, in a shabby brick building -- there, up six flights of steep wooden stairs, Y.E.S. has its headquarters.

Sue Olson, now secretary of Y.E.S., an articulate young woman and student at the University of Minnesota, explained the reason for starting the service. "There were an undetermined number of problems in the community which weren't being solved. Kids who needed venereal disease tests and pregnancy tests."

Y.E.S. was formed six months ago by its Director Ken Beitler, in affiliation with the West Bank Campus Ministry. Since then, operations have expanded. There are now about 140 volunteers and 30 new volunteers each week. The volunteers range from 14-

year old long-haired youths, to middle-aged, middle class, lawyers and doctors.

Each volunteer has to go through a strenuous training and orientation program before being qualified to handle calls. First, there is an introductory speech by the Director, explaining the purposes of the service and a required reading packet of forms and resource information is handed out.

The volunteers separate in groups and have what is called role playing. The trainee attempts to handle crisis situations and eventually has to learn to sympathize objectively without reinforcing the feelings of the caller. We call it crisis intervention counseling; in other words, how to stay cool on the phone."

The listener also has to learn the 'jargon' of the callers. They have to know the meaning of common 'hip' terms such as "smack," "clap," "blowing grass," "doing dope," and "knocking-up girlfriends."

The Youth Emergency Service has had about 3,000 calls since it started. A record is kept of all calls including information on the location, the problem, and the sex and age of the caller.

"The whole philosophy behind the Y.E.S. is that youth can help youth. The important thing is that we don't moralize. There is complete trust. No one is going to call your parents," said Olson sincerely.

"If you get too far down, or too far up, we try to help. We'll rap with anybody about anything. Y.E.S. can help. Just call 338-7588."

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