

THE

DRIFT

WORLD-CLASS FACILITIES P.03

KMS COACHES WITH OLYMPIC EXPERIENCE P.10

ANNUAL FUND P.13



2013-2014

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MISSION STATEMENT

The KMS Experience... is an educational opportunity for the student-athlete with high aspirations and steadfast integrity. We are a community united by shared passions and a competitive spirit; our commitment to each other is built upon teamwork and mutual respect.

Combining rigorous, college-preparatory academics with world-class athletic training in a personalized setting, our students learn to balance their responsibilities in a diverse environment that includes competition and world travel. It is the mission of the Killington Mountain School to facilitate this dynamic by providing a highly individualized program, skilled teachers and coaches, a dedicated staff and the technological infrastructure to support distance learning.

We believe that the greatest lessons at Killington Mountain School come from facing challenges with courage and grace. These experiences of failure and success provide unmatched opportunities for personal growth and create a lasting will to persevere. Our graduates are uniquely prepared for life beyond KMS.

Killington Mountain School's core values are summarized by the acronym **RILER**:

RESPECT
INTEGRITY
LEADERSHIP
EXCELLENCE
RESPONSIBILITY

We strive to bring these five principles to all aspects of life at KMS from the dorm room to the hill.

DEAR KMS COMMUNITY:



During the 1908 Olympics, Ethelbert Talbot, Bishop of Pennsylvania, gave a speech to Olympic champions that inspired Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the International Olympic Committee, to pen the following:



"The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but to take part, just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well."

This motto has been adopted as the official creed of the Olympic Games, and Pierre de Coubertin is widely known as the founder of the modern Olympic Games.

Please take a moment to read the KMS mission statement to the left. Now consider the Olympic Creed. They are one and the same, and whether or not our students go on to Olympic glory, through their experience at KMS they learn to embody that ethos, which serves them well in any future endeavor.

The value of a KMS education lies in experiencing failure and success on a daily basis, and learning to persevere in the struggle.

Recently I watched as our students loaded the vans to head out on yet another bone-chilling morning. On the hill, I witnessed firsthand their efforts to persevere in competition and training. In the halls and classrooms, I see their dedication and commitment to academic excellence. Last month, I watched as a group of student leaders organized and hosted the first KMS Snowball dance, a huge effort and monumental success for their community.

In September of 2011, KMS opened its doors to its first full-term students. In the past three years we've grown from 11 to 23 full-term'ers. We have a year-round faculty and staff of 25, and a campus facility to house all of our academic, residential and administrative functions. Two recent graduates of our full-time cycling program have been signed to a pro cycling team out of California, "CalBerry-Giant."

Our Student Council is working daily to improve the student experience at KMS. Our

College Placement program is working to help place KMS seniors in their colleges of choice. As I write this letter, five out of seven seniors have received acceptance letters at schools ranging from Dartmouth College (two acceptances), Middlebury College (two acceptances), University of Michigan, Sierra Nevada College, and academic scholarships to Colby-Sawyer College, and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

In the previous six months, we have raised more than \$500,000 to build and modernize our on-hill training venues at Killington. This effort will enhance our students' athletic experience. Working in close partnership with Killington Resort, this enhancement will serve to provide the best alpine, moguls and action sports training facility in the East.

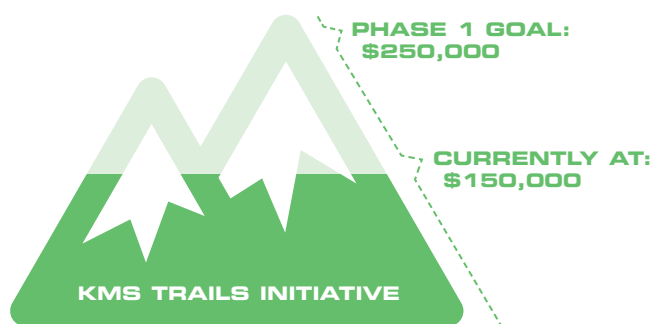
In 2015, we will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Killington Mountain School. As we experience the 2014 Winter Olympics and prepare to celebrate our 40th anniversary, it is important that we honor our Olympians, but also that we recognize the spirit that is embodied in our mission statement, and lived each day by the students of the Killington Mountain School.

Our job at KMS is to provide opportunity for our students to achieve their personal best, and that opportunity is provided through the collective efforts of our teachers, coaches, administrators, trustees, parents, alumni, town, resort and larger athletic community. It requires an incredible amount of dedication and sacrifice on the part of everyone to make these programs possible. As you consider how you may help KMS maintain and expand our mission, keep in mind the quality of experience that you had at KMS or that you wish for your child. We are all active participants in providing the platform for our student-athletes to achieve success through perseverance and persistence.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for your commitment to KMS and to our mission.

Sincerely,

Tao Smith
Head of School



For more information or to help us reach our Phase One goal, please contact:

TSMITH@KILLINGTONMOUNTAINSCHOOL.ORG

\$100,000 LEFT TO RAISE THIS WINTER

FOR PHASE 1 OF THE TRAILS INITIATIVE PROJECT

Killington Mountain School is tremendously grateful for a recent donation that John Cumming, CEO of Powdr Corporation, has made to its Trails Initiative Project. Cumming's generous donation of \$50,000 was double matched by an anonymous donor, resulting in a \$150,000 total contribution toward the project's winter fundraising goal of \$250,000. The Trails Initiative Project is a three-phase plan, with the end goal being the creation of a world-class training and competition venue on Killington's Highline Trail.

Phase One involved widening the lower trail to allow for a temporary mogul venue, adjusting the grade of the trail, and the purchase of two air bag jumps for training. Cumming's donation, combined with the matching funds of the anonymous donor, will allow for Phase Two of the project to begin this spring. Phase Two includes the continued widening and re-grade of the trail, the creation of a permanent mogul venue, the addition of lighting for the trail, and the implementation of snowmaking capabilities as well. This work will be completed in time for the 2014-2015 winter season. Phase Three of the project will be the addition of a ski lift, creating a faster turnaround time for athletes training and racing on the improved trail.

More than 120 individuals and corporations have already donated to the Trails project since fundraising began in July 2013. Other than an anonymous matching donor, John Cumming's gift represents the single largest donation to date. KMS also received support from the Kelly Brush Foundation, a non-profit organization that supports safety improvements to racing and training venues.

The widening of and grade adjustments to the trail will yield a training and racing venue that allows more athletes the space to train simultaneously; this permanent safety change will benefit everyone who utilizes the trail. More than 1,200 skiers and riders take advantage of training and competition opportunities on the Highline trail annually, and the

improvements will ultimately benefit athletes of all ages and abilities.

"John's gift reinforces Powdr's commitment to our local athletes, and his family's long-term support of the sports of Alpine racing, Freestyle skiing, and Snowboard competition," said Head of School Tao Smith. "Together, our donors are making sure that kids continue to have opportunities to pursue their dreams in a world-class environment here at Killington. We are very grateful for John's vision and support of our project."

The combination of John Cumming's donation and that of KMS's anonymous donor, puts the school that much closer to its \$250,000 winter fundraising goal, taking the exciting plans for the Highline venue one step closer to becoming a reality.

(See sidebar on page 13 for a list of Trails Initiative donors.)



WORLD CLASS FACILITIES

& THE KILLINGTON STAFF THAT DELIVER SNOW

They don't have household names, but their craft is admired by hundreds of thousands of skiers and snowboarders, and appreciated every day of the season by the athletes, coaches and staff at Killington Mountain School.

Greg Hiltz; John Dupont; Chris McIlvaine; Rich Cobosco; Jeff Temple; Dave LaCombe are just some of the names that make up Killington Resort's world class Mountain Operations team. Armed with a fleet of quarter-million-dollar snowcats, millions of gallons of water, and the most extensive snow-making system in North America, these professionals guide a seasoned team that transforms the more than 70 miles of terrain into not only one of the best ski resorts in the eastern United States but also one of the best ski and snowboard training and competition venues in North America.

"We have all the equipment to do the job, extremely powerful snowmaking, grooming machines and other tools, but the real difference at Killington is the people."

- Mike Solimano, Killington/Pico Ski Resort Partners President

"Our entire business is based on us providing great snow product and the mountain operations team is entirely focused on this goal," Solimano said.

This talented crew has perfected the art of snow farming, no matter what Mother Nature throws their way. But most importantly to us, they set the stage for Killington Mountain School's athletes to reach their highest level of athletic achievement.

"Killington Resort is an incredible asset for our programs," praised KMS Head of School Tao Smith. "The

athletic venues, quality of snow, length of season, and centralized location all make Killington the premiere resort in the East to ski and ride."

From snowmaking to grooming, the mountain operations team provides KMS a variety of snow surfaces for all levels of events and training disciplines.

"We receive a lot of input and feedback from coaches; move snow here, plow snow away from there, how to prep certain venues, groom or don't groom based on the snow surface," said Jeff Temple, Killington's director of mountain operations. "Often, coaches will ride along with the operators to work out the details of certain venues."

From first-shift grooming that allows ample time for the snow surface to set up for alpine training, to pulling out the guns and hoses to soften up a mogul course, Killington's team takes pride in providing young athletes the best possible training and competitive conditions.

"We believe it is very important to embrace youth skiing and riding in a competitive environment," Solimano said. "While there is a substantial cost to the resort to provide top notch venues for our youth to train, we believe it is critical for our resort and for the future of the ski resort business as a whole."

The relationship is one that has been crafted over many years, starting with Pres Smith and Leo Denis and the legacy is now in the capable hands of Jeff Temple and his crew. ***And from all of us at KMS, we say "Thank You!"***



"Compared to ski training in Scotland, this is a dream. Skiing in Scotland is so unpredictable and everyone lives far away from the mountains. Living here is totally different but in a good way."

*Nicole Ritchie,
Women's Alpine Team*

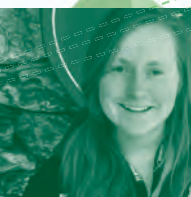
WORLD VIEWS

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS CALL KMS "HOME"

With six international student-athletes at KMS this year—three from Scotland, two from the Czech Republic and one from Australia—KMS has taken on an international flair. But why? For starters, from a geographical standpoint, Killington is at the heart of not only Vermont, but also New England, and offers not only the best skiing and training terrain in the East, but also a convenient location to metropolitan areas just hours away. But what truly attracts athletes to KMS is the quality and depth of the school's coaching staff, the access to the outstanding terrain and training facilities right in the school's backyard, plus a community that focuses on quality academics and great college placement.



GRAEME PRICE, AN ALPINE RACER, IS FROM RHU, NEAR LOCH LOMOND. His home school is Hermitage Academy. He learned to ski at two while on a family holiday and has been skiing ever since. The best part for him at KMS has been the skiing and the conditions. He says that the snow “has been amazing here.” The hardest part is being away from his family and close friends, but he says he is not too bothered by it because he is really enjoying himself in the States.



WOMEN'S ALPINE ATHLETE KATIE GUEST IS FROM JUST NORTH OF PERTH AND HAS FINISHED HIGH SCHOOL.

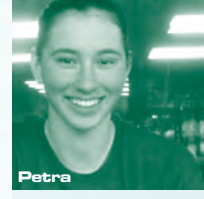
Before KMS she attended the Strathallan School in Perth. Katie looked into KMS and “decided it looked pretty awesome!” She has been skiing since she was five years old but did not race until the age of 10. > “Skiing in another country is phenomenal!” said Katie. “I really enjoy the training and racing here, due to the fact I get to meet new people, and make great new friends. Living away from home is easier than I thought it would be, and I have learned to become more independent—well, I’m still trying.” > She says that the best part about being here is getting to see more of the world and traveling to new places like Alaska. > Katie has dreams of following in the footsteps of her sister, who currently is racing from Great Britain on the World Cup circuit.



NICOLE RITCHIE IS A MEMBER OF THE WOMEN'S ALPINE TEAM AND IS FROM POLLOCKSHIELDS, GLASGOW. When she researched KMS online with her parents, they all felt it suited her perfectly. She explains that it is helpful to have two other student-athletes here from Scotland, as well. Nicole learned to ski when she was three-years-old on a trip to Vail, Colo. > “Compared to ski training in Scotland, this is a dream,” said Nicole. “Skiing in Scotland is so unpredictable and everyone lives far away from the mountains; for me it’s a three to four hour drive. Living here is unique but in a good way.” > She says that living here gives her a totally different experience both in skiing and in life. In Scotland, Nicole says she lives “very close to the biggest city in Scotland and to come to a small town like Killington, where everything is so homey, is really nice.” > Nicole’s ski racing goals are to get her points as low as possible this year in Slalom, Giant Slalom and Super G, and her long term goal is to represent Great Britain at the Olympics and then, ultimately, coach skiing.

KATERINA KOTRLOVA (AGE 19) AND HER SISTER PETRA (AGE 15) COME TO KMS FROM THE CZECH REPUBLIC.

KMS Coach Pavel Stastny, also from the Czech Republic, is a friend of their father’s. Both girls attend the same school at home, where Katerina is focusing in business and economics while Petra’s focus is in education and becoming a teacher. The girls are here with their coach, Thomas Huorecky, who traveled with them back to the Czech Republic in January, so that Katerina could compete at the Junior World Championships, and Petra at the Topolino Cup races, which are regarded as the World Championships for U16 athletes. They will also both compete in the Czech National Championships. > They are completing school work via the internet with their school at home, and are focusing on learning English and benefitting from new and different training opportunities. If they were not at KMS, the two would be alone, working with Thomas at home. Pavel knew it would benefit the girls to be here where they would have the opportunity to compete with a team and train with other coaches as well. He also knew they would be exposed to different race environments, different training techniques and a variety of conditions.



NOAH BARROW WAS BORN IN CANBERRA, THE CAPITAL CITY OF AUSTRALIA, BUT NOW LIVES JUST OUTSIDE OF CANBERRA IN QUEANBEYAN.

He explains that “Queanbeyan is a small city of 33,000 people and is really just like a big country town. It is a fairly old town by Australian standards and just celebrated its 175th birthday.” Noah lives there with parents and his older sister, India. His parents are attorneys and his sister studies Bio-Medical Science at Melbourne University. > Noah’s parents wanted their children to be bi-lingual so they attended a French preschool. Noah then went on to the Lycée Franco-Australien de Canberra Telopea Park School, which is a bi-lingual school where half of the classes are in English and half are in French. Noah explains that “this is a very special school as it is the only public school in the Southern Hemisphere that is funded and staffed jointly by the Australian and French governments.” > Noah has always enjoyed cycling, with a strong interest in mountain biking. He competed some in Australia but nothing like his current competition schedule. He says there are many more races and several different disciplines here. For example he had never done Cyclocross or road biking before coming to KMS. > Noah says he loves living in the United States and that Vermont is “a really nice place to live and train.” > “There are few places in the world that have great hills to ride, great mountain biking and awesome cyclocross,” he said. He feels lucky to speak the language, making the transition less daunting. He says the best thing about here is being able to train and focus on academics, all in one place. > Noah’s future cycling plans include determining whether or not his ability is strong enough to pursue his dream of being a pro cyclist or his professional dream of being an orthodontist.



EXCELLING IN THE CLASSROOM & ON THE SLOPES

KMS SENIOR, KYLE BURCIN >



As a direct result of his drive and perseverance, Kyle Burcin has been able to achieve excellence in both his academic and athletic life. An early decision acceptance to Dartmouth College reflects the success Kyle has achieved and is an outcome of his hard work and dedication, in addition to the opportunities that KMS provides for aspiring young adults.

Skiing since he was two and racing since he was five, Kyle left Mountain Creek in New Jersey to join the Killington Ski Club program at age seven. Enrolling at KMS in sixth grade as a BOOST student was a natural decision for Kyle and his family, due to his clear love of the sport. In eighth grade Kyle transferred to the Winter Term program and remained there until his junior year, when he joined the full term program. At that point Kyle and his family made the decision to relocate from New Jersey to Vermont, full time, a move that supported his not only his ski racing career, but also the family's commitment to KMS. This year marks Kyle's eighth year here, and if asked, he'd tell you that it truly feels like a second home to him.

"The best part about skiing is that perfection, while it is certainly a goal, is almost unattainable in such a difficult sport. This is very applicable to life as well, just like so many of the other lessons that a ski racer learns through this sport."

Kyle explains that learning how to both balance and maximize the time in each day is one of the hardest yet most valuable lessons that he has learned at KMS. During the ski season he says there is very little free time, and that it is very easy to become tempted to let school work slide; the idea of having down time is so appealing. Learning how to resist this temptation in order to maximize his time to complete his school work, work out, and tune skis, is directly responsible for his success on on and off the hill, and a big reason for his Ivy League college placement.

With the goal to improve every day and maximize the opportunities he has been given, Kyle epitomizes the ethos of the quintessential KMS student.

While at Dartmouth, Kyle plans to major in economics while also racing on the ski team. The strong foundation that he has laid during his time at KMS will certainly help him achieve balance, as well as athletic and academic success in college and beyond.

FROM SKI RACING TO CYCLOCROSS

A NATURAL TRANSITION FOR ARLEY KEMMERER '02 >



KMS Alumna and ski racer, Arley Kemmerer '02 was a driven athlete and a dedicated honors student, and after graduation it was clear that the future was bright for her both athletically and academically. Arley's success was due in part to her strong work ethic and the high standards she held for herself and for those around her.

In 2001, Arley was the Downhill and Super G Vermont State Champion, a highlight of her ski racing career. After her time racing at KMS, Arley headed to the University of New Hampshire to ski in their D1 program, and she did so until her senior year. A Political Science and Justice Studies major, Arley held an internship during her senior year that required her to work in the Attorney General's Office two to three days per week, and as a result, she was unable to attend ski practice. She felt she would have been taking up a spot on the team without a true commitment to it, so she made the difficult decision to retire from ski racing. Arley explains that while this was disappointing to her, because her identity had been centered on ski racing for so long, it was ultimately a good thing because her retirement from skiing drove her into bike racing.

Arley had a competitive desire and drive that needed an outlet, so she decided to give bike racing a shot. Her parents had given her a road bike for a high school graduation gift, but she hadn't ridden it much, until she got a stress fracture during her junior year of college and couldn't do any type of exercise but ride a bike. She ended up enjoying riding a great deal and learned that for \$100, she could get a UNH Cycling jersey and go to any of the collegiate road races during the season. She ultimately jumped into the collegiate road races, having no idea what she was doing,

but she learned a lot and improved quickly. Her teammates said that if she was going to be a bike racer in New England, she had to race Cyclocross, too. Arley had never heard of Cyclocross before and had no idea what it entailed. After a little research she decided it sounded like something she wanted to try, so she convinced her parents to buy her a Cyclocross bike, and she started racing. She admits that she was "pretty bad" at it at first, but she had a great deal of fun doing it, so she stuck with it.

After racing Cyclocross for several years on small, local teams, in 2010 Arley was given an opportunity to race on her current team, now called C3-Twenty20 Cycling Company, out of Baltimore, MD. She had fairly decent results for a new rider, and even more importantly, she was young and showed a great deal of potential. She raced under two other women, both of whom had competed in the World Championships. Arley explains that she learned a lot from them, and that, combined with a lot of focused training, led her to start posting good results. Her breakthrough moment came in 2012 when she placed 10th at US Nationals. Not many people expected her to pull out a result like that; until that point, Arley had been pretty low on everybody's radar.

Arley's Nationals result in 2012 set her up for a good Cyclocross season the following year. She won two UCI

ARLEY & CYCLOCROSS: A NATURAL PROGRESSION



2004-05

Began cycling and participating in collegiate road races

Bought a cyclocross bike and began racing



2006-09

Raced for several years on small, local teams

2010

Given the opportunity to race on her current team, C3-Twenty20 Cycling Company (out of Baltimore, MD)

2012

Placed 10th at US Nationals



2013

Won two UCI (International Cycling Union) races

Placed 10th for a second time at Nationals

Finished 18th at the World Cup race in Hoogerheide, Netherlands

CURRENT SEASON

Won one UCI race

Finished 15th in 2 World Cup races

Currently ranked 31st in the world

Just selected to represent the U.S. at the World Cyclocross Championships

(International Cycling Union) races, which she had never done before. Her team also decided to make a run at a World Cup race. A World Cup is the next step in the natural progression of Cyclocross racing; much like skiing, an athlete can't get very far up the world rankings without participating in World Cup races. After placing 10th again at Nationals, Arley flew straight to Belgium to race the final World Cup race of the year in Hoogerheide, Netherlands. She finished 18th in that race, which she explains was incredibly cold and snowy—perhaps her years of skiing contributed to her ability to post good results in a challenging climate! No one really expected Arley to post such a good result, and her success once again, impressed her teammates and competitors.

So far this season (2013-2014), Arley has one UCI win and many podium finishes. In addition, she competed in two World Cup races this year, one in Valkenburg, Holland, and one in Tabor, Czech Republic. She finished 15th in both of these races, a result that was really exciting for her, as a top-15 result had been her goal. Arley headed back to Europe to race two

more World Cups in December. She says that racing in Europe is very different from racing in the United States; it is much more aggressive, the courses are much more challenging and the fans are crazy about Cyclocross. She shares that racing there is a really awesome experience, and that there's a lot to be gained from and learned with each trip. Arley feels that she is starting to get the hang of World Cup racing, and that things are really beginning to click. She mentioned that they show Cyclocross races on television in Europe, so she is enjoying getting some "Euro airtime!"

In addition to her Cyclocross career, Arley works as a full-time lawyer and owns her own practice. This career obviously demands a great deal of time, so fitting in the time for Cyclocross training can sometimes be a challenge. However, she makes it all work. Arley explains that it isn't financially possible to race full-time; women don't fetch the same salaries that men do, so women often need employment elsewhere to cover the bills. She trains almost year-round on the bike, racing road and mountain bikes in the summer to keep up her fitness level. She also does a lot

of crossfit-style training off the bike. Arley has a coach, Mike Birner, of Sportif Coaching Group in Maryland, and he draws up weekly training plans based on her race and season goals.

While attending KMS as a ski racer, Arley cultivated time management skills, learning how to balance athletic and academic commitment and all that both entail. Those skills played an important role in her success while at UNH and are still crucial now as she balances the demands of her career as an attorney and also those that come along with being an elite, competitive athlete. If her cycling results are any indication, she is handling the demands with great finesse. Arley is currently sponsored by Specialized Bicycles, Sram, Challenge Tires, Twenty20 Cycling Company, Hostetter Insurance, Swiftwick Socks, Mad Alchemy, Tifosi Optics, Elete Add-in and Craft Clothing. She is presently ranked 31st in the world is the current Cat 1 mountain bike national champion.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *At press time, Arley had just been selected to represent the U.S. at the World Cyclocross Championships in Hoogerheide, Netherlands in February. She said she was "honored, grateful and excited for the challenge."*

SEE WHAT OTHER KMS ALUMS HAVE BEEN UP TO...

Chummy Prestowitz '88 is living in Truckee, CA with his wife Michele and his two daughters, Mikaela (13) and Carolyn (11). They have been enjoying "the typical Sierra mountain lifestyle of skiing and ski racing, running, mountain biking, SUPing, camping, and backpacking for the last 11 years." Prior to Truckee, they lived in the San Francisco Bay Area where Chummy was involved with several technology and start up companies. Six years ago, he co-founded a company based in Reno, Nevada called InsideValuation, which does residential and commercial property valuations for financial institutions such as banks, hedge funds, mortgage companies etc. Chummy wrote the software to support the business and they have grown from a handful of employees to over 60 employees. This past year, the company was a finalist as one of the best places to work in the Reno/Tahoe area! In the winter, Chummy is a part-time ski coach with the SugarBowl Ski Team/ SugarBowl Academy where his daughters are competitive U14/U12 Far West USSA racers. He regularly hangs out with other KMS (and Bates College) Alumni, **Bryce Hubner**, Head U16 Coach and Director of Admissions for SugarBowl Academy, and **Dan Loman** U16 Coach and Assistant Director of Advancement/Dorm Parent for SugarBowl Academy. Being in Tahoe and Northern California, he periodically sees other local KMS alumni like **Karen Brazier**, **Kim Soloski**, **Todd Brown** as well as alumni from other ski academies. He even bumped into **Kyle Wieche**. **Josh Watson '99** reports that after coaching the FIS Men at KMS from 2010-2012, he has gone on to coach with the Rowmark FIS team. **Marc Galardi '03** is the sales manager for the Northeast region for a recycling company called the Newark Group. He buys and sells scrap paper, plastic, and metal. He sells material domestically and also internationally to China and India. This spring he will have been with the company for seven years. He also manages real estate as a side business. He and his fiancé bought a house in Swampscott, Mass. **Sven Kvinlaug '03** worked with Morgan Stanley for two years and left in 2009 to open an office for a private firm in Burlington, Vt. called Moors and Cabot Investments. Sven and his partner in the business are financial consultants who help their clients invest their money. He explains that they also do stock and option trading for certain individuals. Sven is also working with his father to start a sports company that will focus on distributing for a few new brands who want to enter the US market, including a ski company out of the Czech Republic, a downhill pole company out of Italy, and a cross-country ski boot company, also out of the Czech Republic. They are looking to be up and running for the 2014/2015 season. **Dan Loman '03** is working for Sugar Bowl Academy in Truckee, CA as a U16 coach. He is also the Associate Director of Advancement and a dorm parent as well. **Kristoph Becker '04** graduated from Middlebury College and trained for the Olympic Trials in the Decathlon (2007-2008), investigated allegations of police misconduct for New York City (2008-2010), gradu-

ated from law school (2013), worked at Innocence Project and the US Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division during law school (2011 and 2012, respectively), and recently passed the New York State bar exam and started a new job as a class action attorney in White Plains, NY. **Krissey Fagan '04** has been living in Bellingham, Wash. since 2007. She says it snows about 700 inches a season. She is finishing up prerequisites for a nursing program, which she will start in the fall. On the outdoor recreation side, she says that she has been running 50k and 50-mile trail races for several years now. She is the Communications Chair on the Board of The Mountaineers Bellingham branch, so she gets to teach and climb often. **Jeff Hackett '04** attended UVM and competed on the ski team there for one season. The season was tough as he was recovering from an ACL injury from the prior season. After having some ups and downs, he decided to hang up the race skis for the wider "fat ski" variety. He graduated UVM with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (double major in Entrepreneurship and Management & the Environment). From there he moved with college friends to the Denver/Boulder area and has been there ever since. He spent a season working for Surefoot (Breckenridge) and then found a more full time job at American Recreation Products (camping brands such as Kelty and Sierra Designs). He's been working at American Recreation Products for three and a half years now, working in Customer Service and Dealer Service. Jeff reports that he was just promoted to Territory Sales Manager—Rocky Mountains (Northern CO, UT, WY, ND, SD, NE & KS). He is the youngest Sales Manager they have ever hired, and he feels that his experience in the ski industry and traveling around cold New England roads are surely what primed him for this role. **Carrie Hall '04** graduated from Sierra Nevada College with a Bachelors of Fine Arts degree, with a concentration in Photography. Carrie has been snowboarding ever since her time at KMS. She has spent seasons in the Italian Alps, Whistler, and Chile, competing in snowboard events. Carrie won the first Daron Rahlves Banzai at Squaw Valley. In addition to time spent snowboarding, Carrie is the owner/designer of an innovative outerwear company, LetsGetBagged (www.letsgetbagged.com), based out of Lake Tahoe, California. **Molly Reis '04** graduated from McGill University in 2008 and from the University of London in 2011. She is a practicing attorney and has passed the Bar Exam in both Vermont and New York. She is currently living in Burlington, Vt. and working for a law firm in Civil Litigation. She ski races in a corporate league on Friday nights at Bolton Valley and also plays in a soccer league in Shelburne. Molly keeps in touch with many KMS Alumni, including **Jeff Hackett**, **Danny Loman**, **Joey Swensson**, **Katelyn Wagner**, **Ashley Hedlund**, **Michelle Villari**, **Carrie Hall**. **Danny Moore '09** graduated from UVM in 2013 with a BS in Mechanical Engineering and has taken an engineering position working for SOH Wind Engineering in South Burlington. In conjunction with his job he was lucky enough to be chosen to move from his home in Vermont to Copenhagen, Denmark to work at the sister company of Svend Ole Hansen ApS (www.sohansen.dk). He will work there for about six months and will return Vermont

to continue his job with the company here. **Matt Beers '10** is currently a senior at Saint Michael's College in Burlington. VT. He is a Business Major with a focus in Management and Marketing. After graduation he is planning on going to Europe for a month or so to visit friends and travel with fellow KMS Alum **Tim Spangler '09**. Afterwards they will likely move to Boston to find work and plan to reconnect with some other KMS friends. Matt is currently skiing NCAA Division I at St. Michael's College and looking forward to his final season of Carnivals. He still keeps in touch with many of his friends from KMS and is living with and also on the ski team with **Tim Spangler '09** at St. Mike's. He also sees **Jim Ryan '09** and **Mark Grundy '09** regularly. **Bryan Zemba '10** is at Westminster College, majoring in Exercise and Movement Sciences. Upon graduating he would like to work in the ski industry. He is currently living in Park City, Utah. Bryan keeps in touch with KMS Alum **Sterling Crescimanno**, and makes an effort to spend time with other KMS Alumni whenever he is home in Vermont. **Chazz Griffen '10** is living and working in Idaho where he is involved in a start up company called Ruckus Fermentation. He and his partners have developed a way to speed up the fermentation process of alcohol, allowing the process to occur in under 24 hours. This summer he will be working at a marketing firm in New York City. **Kenny McNeill '12** is currently finishing up his third semester at Northeastern University where he is studying Mechanical Engineering within the Honors College. Since his time at KMS, Kenny's sport of choice has become cycling. He currently races for Northeastern and a summer team called B2C2 pb Boloco. He has had some great success this season, winning the overall individual mountain bike title this fall within the ECCC, a division that spreads from Maine to Delaware, and then going on to compete at Nationals. Kenny was also able to travel to China for the International Elite Universities bike race where he took a spot on the podium and helped carry his team to the overall win. Head of School **Tao Smith** enjoyed catching up with KMS Alumni at the First Annual Ski Academy Alumni Reunion held in Park City, Utah in February. Alumni from seven academies gathered for some powder skiing, food and fun. KMS Alumni and Friends in attendance included: **Chazz Griffen**, **Anders Sigourney**, **Josh Watson**, **Meghan Brown**, **Kristian Mulholland**, **Cameron Price**, **Tec Calcagni**, **Chuck Gohn**, and **Cynthia Rust**. This will be an annual event, so mark your calendars for next year's reunion which will be the first week of February, 2015. In addition, Boston-area KMS Alumni should be sure to join us for another Ski Academy Reunion that will be held in conjunction with the Head of the Charles Regatta in Boston on the weekend of October 18th. KMS will have a tent at the "Reunion Village" and plans are being made for an evening gathering with other ski academy alumni, as well.

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Tell us what's going on in your life and we'll include it in the next issue of the Drift. Email to: info@killingtonmountainschool.org



KMS COACHES: INDUSTRY LEADERS WITH OLYMPIC AND WORLD CUP EXPERIENCE

One of the greatest assets at Killington Mountain School is its coaching staff. Having four current coaches with World Cup experience, one USSA Coach of the Year, two VARA Coaches of the Year, one Olympian, and three Olympic coaches, this KMS staff is deep. Many coaches have NCAA coaching experience or have coached at the National Team level; the quality, depth and richness of the KMS coaching staff is unparalleled. They are coaches that are at the top of their profession and leaders looked to within the industry for their skills and expertise. And, they are wholly dedicated to their KMS student-athletes.

But, it's the coaches' personal investment that yields the greatest results; the kids know their coaches care, and the interest and support they feel from those guiding them results in hard work on and off the hill, consistent determination, and positive performances.

"One of my goals when I first came to the Killington Mountain School was for our coaches to be leaders in the industry," said Tao Smith, head of school. "I am pleased with how that vision has come about. We have coaches who have coached and competed at all levels; several coaches on staff are also USSA coach instructors, and they are the best out there. We are saturated with leaders in the industry here, leaders who are competent, quality professionals, dedicated to the kids here and their care."

Tom Sell, the Alpine program's Athletic Director, agrees.

"Our staff has more than 200 years combined coaching experience, with more than 40 years of World Cup

coaching," said Sell. "They have been at eight Olympics and 12 World Championships. It's amazing to bring a staff with such a breadth of experience working together under one roof."



Recently off the World Cup racing circuit, KMS Women's Alpine Coach, Olympian **Chelsea Marshall**, grew up skiing at Killington and developed a passion for the sport at a very young age. She was a member of the US Ski Team for 10 years, where she became an outstanding Downhill competitor, competing in the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver. She also had a very successful World Cup career, with 18 top-30 finishes, more than 50 career FIS podiums, and a career best of eighth at the Downhill World Cup race at Sestriere. Her results are undoubtedly impressive, but it is her pure love of skiing that sets her apart. She is passionate about all aspects of skiing and that

passion led to her years of dedication to the sport.

"I just love being on Killington," she said. "I have a passion for the mountain. I really wanted to work with younger kids and give back to younger generations, and to instill a love for the sport and for being on the mountain. This group has a lot of positive energy, and there is a really good team dynamic. I think we have built a strong Women's team here at KMS, and it's something I've been really excited about being a part of."



Director of Action Sports at KMS, **Matt Gnoza**, is another example of a coach with a tremendous level of experience, both as an athlete and as an instructor. He is a USSA Level 2 Aerial Coach and was named the 2003 USSA Freestyle Domestic Coach of the Year. He was also the 2002 and 2003 Junior World Coach for the US Freestyle Ski Team. Gnoza is a former USSA competitor with Loon, WVBBTS and the Killington program and is



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-Tom Sell, Alpine Program Athletic Director

the current Eastern USSA Coaches Education Clinician. He is co-camp director and one of head coaches of PSI Bandit Ramp Camps and coaches at PSI Whistler and PSI Australia. Gnoza holds three positions within the USSA. He is Chairman of the Coaches Education Committee (designing the curriculum manuals for coaches education and running the clinics for the US Freestyle level 100, 200). He is also the coaches representative on the NorAm committee and at a national meeting in the spring of 2013, Gnoza was voted Chairman of National Mogul Committee, which oversees everything concerning moguls in the United States; anything put in the mogul rule book will cross his desk first.

“What this all means,” Gnoza explained, “is that KMS is a leader in the freestyle world. Because I oversee many of these committees, I get to help to steer the sport, and it shows that my peers respect me and have faith in me. One of my goals is to focus on the athlete development so that the sport of moguls will be healthy for years and years to come, and my work at KMS ensures that as well.”



Pavel Stastny, from the Czech Republic, brings more than 38 years of coaching experience and a track record of helping

athletes reach the highest level of their sport. Most recently, he coached Sarka Zahrobska to five top-15 World Cup finishes. Previous to that, he was

the head coach for the Alpine Canada Men’s Europa Cup Team, during which time two Canadian men captured Nor Am championships and a third finished second to his teammate. Now he’s the PG, U18 and U21 alpine coach for KMS.

“First of all, I’ve known the coaches here for many years,” said Stastny. “We’ve worked together in the past, and it’s enjoyable to be working with them again. I remember Tao as a young racer, and now he is bringing a very good atmosphere to the school. The terrain is good on the hill, and the relationship between the school and Killington is solid. We have great opportunities to train here, and the future for training is promising with the Highline facility.”



KMS Snowboard Coach **KC Gandee’s** background is similar to Gnoza’s and Marshall’s, in that it’s one of deep experi-

ence, as a coach, competitor, and as an instructor within his discipline. He is a USASA Coach Representative on the Executive Board of Directors, a USASA Level 200 certified coach, a USASA Snowboard Coach Educator, a USASA Level 200 Aerials certified coach, a 2012 Southern Vermont Series USASA Coach of the Year, and an American Association of Snowboard Instructors Level III coach (highest). Gandee has been a member of the AASI Board of Examiners since 2006, a AASI Eastern Division Examiner

Coach from 2011-present, a member of the AASI National Team 2004-2008 (one of only six), a PSIA/AASI Children’s Specialist Accreditation Level II (highest), a Technical Editor for the AASI Park and Pipe Instructors Guide, an editor for the AASI Snowboard Instructor’s Handbook, a Technical Editor for the Vail Snowboard Instructor’s Handbook, and he served as Head Coach in the Ross Powers Snowboard Camp (2003-2006).

“Without a doubt, the best part of coaching at KMS is the team approach,” said Gandee. “By working so closely with teachers, dorm parents and our strength and conditioning coach, we help our student-athletes learn more than just sport skills. This team effort allows the KMS faculty and staff to zero-in on how riders learn, interact socially and where they need to build strength. I’ve found this allows us to help the student-athletes realize their goals much more easily than other one- dimensional approaches.”

The vast experience and depth of knowledge that each of these KMS coaches brings to the table results in an atmosphere where student-athletes can both grow and excel, and leaves them armed with skills they will benefit from for years to come.

“What’s amazing to me,” said Sell, “is that the coaches with so many different years of experience in so many different directions can have so much fun working together and with the kids.”

STUDENT LIFE AT KMS

Locals, neighbors and visitors to the mountains here in Killington, Vermont are in the thick of the winter season, but for the teachers, coaches, and student-athletes of Killington Mountain School, the competitions have been heating up since way back before the temperatures first began to drop (And KMS is a community

that has always enjoyed a bit of friendly competition!). In this case, with the 3rd annual race for the Hasse Cup underway, regularly-scheduled student-life activities and events serve to provide a playing field for the Community (intra-mural) House Competition.

With KMS athletic teams focused primarily on training and competing, the student life component serves to mix these

groups up, and to get everyone involved in the fun through extracurricular activities and other events, like chess and ping pong tournaments, pumpkin carving, gingerbread house making, themed community days, gym nights, and trips to the movies. Through these activities and others, students and staff interact and compete, building a sense of community, of personal pride, and of personal belonging.



YELLOW SUBMARINES VS. THE BLUES BROTHERS

This year, the Yellow Submarines have been trying pull things back together to defend their **Hasse Cup title**, but so far, the Blues Brothers have given little indication that they will be willing to accept anything other than the top spot on the podium for nearly all of the significant competitive events!

THE FIRST KMS SNOW BALL

The **2014 KMS Snow Ball**, held on January 17, was another exciting addition to the student-life calendar this year. The event was made possible by members of the student council, and a cross section of community volunteers. With KMS's long and successful history of serving as a five-month school (only), the need for a school dance or "Prom" had never been perceived as a tremendous necessity. But with the development of the full-term program now two years underway, the school has undergone a subtle shift to accommodate for additional student needs, and to create greater depth by providing our student-athletes with elements of a "normal high school experience." During the week leading up to the Snow Ball, excitement was tangible on campus; the halls of KMS buzzed with shared anticipation. On the night of the dance, students rolled up in formal attire (some by limo)

to a DJ and a cool winter's evening of dancing and fun, under a mirror ball and a snowstorm of paper snowflakes. The Snow Ball brought all year levels together for a night that every student-athlete will remember.

OTHER CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

At Killington Mountain School, faculty, staff and coaches all strive to create a sense of belonging for each of our student-athletes. From **Steve Tuckerman's "Ugly Sweater Contest,"** to Liz Guthrie's **French cuisine classes**; from something as simple as stacking wood together with the team and then sharing a BBQ with the Head of School, or just shoveling snow, throwing a football, or coming together to enjoy a community bonfire, shared traditions lead to a sense of belonging and an atmosphere of fun. Alongside of our world-class athletic training, the KMS experience

provides a supportive and challenging chapter in each one of our lives, an experience that will be memorable, character-building and fun.

2014 COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE LIST:

CJ Aslan: Early Decision to the School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Heather Desino: University of Michigan

Kyle Burcin: Dartmouth College

James Ferri: Dartmouth College

Wyatt Queirolo: Boston College, Cornell University, Middlebury College, Syracuse University, University of Virginia, Washington University

Tommy Shebell: Castleton State, Colby Sawyer, Plymouth State University, Sierra Nevada



KMS ANNUAL FUND

The KMS experience would not be possible without the generosity of family, friends and alumni. We are grateful to those that supported the Annual Fund during the 2012-2013 fiscal year (July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013). Collectively, Annual Fund participants raised over \$200,000. These gifts are vital to KMS and help underwrite the distinctive programs that make KMS a special place to study and train, and it provides support for faculty, coaches and student-athletes in all their endeavors. *On behalf of the entire KMS community, thank you!*

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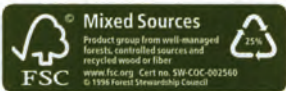
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