

8 The North Bay Nugget, Monday, March 20, 1978



Andrew Bainbridge of Thorne, who is a student at Nipissing University, North Bay, won the top place in the ski jumping competition held at the Thorne Ski resort Sunday.

First competition in 15 years

## Thorne man wins ski jumping

By GORD McCULLOCH, Nugget Temiscaming-Mattawa Bureau

THORNE — Ski jumping has made a comeback in the Temiscaming area.

For the first time in 15 years, ski jumping competitions were held in this district.

During the weekend Paul Pharaud, owner of the Thorne ski resort, sponsored a jumping meet here.

A young Thorne man, Andrew Bainbridge who is a student at Nipissing University, North Bay, won the event and was awarded the Ken Therrien Memorial Trophy.

Also among the competitors was Armand Bourgaignon, Espanola, who fifteen years ago was winner of the trophy during ski jumping competition at the old Temiscaming Ski Club, an organization which has since ceased to exist.

Claude Beaudry, a former ski jumper who at one time was among the top echelon of the Temiscaming Ski Club and Northern Ontario jumpers, was also a competitor during the weekend.

He said this was the first time he had jumped for a period of more than 15 years.

The weekend competition was an open event and eight-year-old Jean Claude Bourgaignon and 10-year-old Timmy Bourgaignon, both of Espanola, entered the contest and placed. The boys are sons of Armand Bourgaignon.

Other contestants included Gilles Myre of Thorne, who placed second, Patric Pharaud of Thorne, in third spot and Gerry Bourgaignon of North Bay.

Sverre Skolberg, one of the veteran skiers and jumpers of Temiscaming, who competed during the thirties, was a spectator at the event.

Paul Pharaud said the event was held at the insistence of Armand Bourgaignon who brought the Ken Therrien

Memorial Trophy out of retirement, in an effort to boost interest in ski jumping in this district.

The Ken Therrien Memorial Trophy came into existence following the tragic drowning deaths of Ken Therrien and his brother Eric, in the Ottawa River.

Both men were popular members of the Temiscaming Ski Club, both were ski jumpers and Ken was one of the club's top performers during the 1950s.

During the following decade interest in skiing generally in this district, started to show a marked decline and jumping, once a popular activity in the Temiscaming club, faded along with the club.

The former ski jump, located on the Quebec side of the Ottawa River, north of the Town of Temiscaming, fell into disrepair and was finally dismantled.

The site of the former chalet and ski jump is now used as a sanitary landfill by the Town of Temiscaming.

Downhill skiing continued in the area only because of the efforts of Paul Pharaud who developed the Thorne ski resort.

Mr. Pharaud who is a former president of the old Temiscaming club has a noteworthy record in skiing circles.

In 1943 he won the Quebec ski jumping championship and took first place in the Nordic events at Ottawa in 1945.

For four years he held the C. B. Thorne Trophy for ski jumping and cross-country skiing at Temiscaming.

He plans to build a ski jump at the Thorne resort which will accommodate intermediate meets and will be the only facility of its kind in this area.

"I believe we are coming full cycle," he said.



Memories of the past were blended with realities of the present during the ski jumping competitions held at the Thorne ski resort during the weekend. Fifteen years ago Armand Bourgaignon (left) now of Espanola, won the Ken Therrien Memorial Trophy for ski jumping at the old Temiscaming Ski Club. Since that time the trophy has been in retirement. Sunday Andrew Bainbridge (centre), of Thorne, took top spot in the ski jumping competition Sunday and won the trophy. Paul Pharaud (right) is owner of the Thorne resort and was formerly one of the top jumpers of the Temiscaming club and among the upper echelon of skiers in Canada during the mid-forties.

—Nugget Staff Photos