

# Droog, Brooks at Junior National meet

By Shawn Marshall

Two members of the DCVI crosscountry ski team, Annette Droog and Heather Brooks, left this past weekend to attend the Junior Canadian championships in Whitehorse, Yukon.

The meet, running from March 4-11, features the top Junior Nordic racers in the country, divided into three age divisions from 14-19.

Brooks, 15, qualified for the elite competition as the top SOD (Southern Ontario Division) skier in the 14-15 year old category. A Grade 10 student at the DCVI, Heather broke into the SOD racing scene last summer when she was named to their development squad.

This past winter, she placed 6th overall at the Ontario Championships in Deep River, and first in all three qualifying SOD races she entered.

She appears to be peaking for the Nationals, however, as her fifth-place finish at OFSAA recently was her best skiing of the season.

Heather left for Whitehorse on Monday morning out of Toronto, accompanied by DCVI coach Harold Burgin and the remainder of the SOD team, which is based in Barrie.

While Brooks will be attending her first competition at the National level it will be old hat for Annette Droog, as she qualified for the Canadians last year as well.

She also took part in the Senior Nationals earlier this winter. Droog, 16, is the top SOD skier in

the 16-17 year old category.

After capturing first place at both OFSAA and the Ontario Championships in the younger division last year, Droog skied to fifth place at the Nationals.

Over the summer, she was made a member of the Ontario Elite Team, and spent a month in Labrador in November training with them.

After a fifth-place finish at the Ontario's, Droog took the silver at

## Sports

the high school OFSAA in Ottawa, then both she and Brooks attended the World Juniors in Lake Placid, New York (as spectators).

A Grade 11 student at the school, Annette left early last Saturday for Whitehorse, travelling with the Ontario team, to arrive in the Yukon early.

Both Annette and Heather will race four times while in Whitehorse, with their races scheduled for March 5, 7, 9, and 11.

In other crosscountry ski news, a Level I coaching course was held at the school here this past weekend.

Several competitors and coaches from as far as Toronto came to attend the technical instruction,

held all day on Saturday and Sunday.

The course was taught by Mark Fletcher of Stratford and Richard Leigh of Guelph.

### Basketball Season Closes

In the final basketball high school action of the season, the Senior boys took part in the WOSSA 'A' playoffs in Glencoe.

The Seniors put up a noble effort in their opening match of the single-round knockout, playing a tough team in West Lorne.

Bruce Hunter's squad jumped out to an early lead, holding down a 43-34 halftime advantage.

However, a very "well composed" West Lorne team came back in the latter half to take the 68-59 decision.

Derek Ruthig led St. Marys with 24 points while Rob Campbell chipped in 12. Mike Aarts and Paul Horenburg also played strong games as St. Marys played well despite the "very disappointing" loss.



**AT CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS.** Heather Brooks, left, and Annette Droog, students at St. Marys DCVI, are attending the Junior Canadian Cross-Country championships in Whitehorse, Yukon this week. The March 4-11 meet features the top Junior Nordic racers in the country.



**GRADE 10 STUDENT** Heather Brooks rocks with her teddy bear named J. T. during a 12-hour rock-a-thon at the high school gym on the weekend. Skool Aid, a newly-formed club at the collegiate, staged the rock-a-thon which raised \$2,250 for needy Third World countries.