

## **Hannah Halvorsen Update**

I qualified for the Youth Olympic Games the first week of January in Houghton, Michigan at the US Senior National races. These races bring together the best skiers in the country of all ages who are not racing on the U.S. ski team in Europe. The United States takes the top U18 boy and girl based on this race series. I raced well enough to qualify for this spot, and I will leave for the Youth Olympics February 9th, where I will race the top skiers under eighteen from around the world. After this, I will join a team of eleven other US juniors in Otepaa, Estonia where we will compete against the top Scandinavian skiers under eighteen years of age.

Along with qualifying for the Youth Olympics, I was excited to see improvement in my results at Senior Nationals from last year. I placed 11th overall in the 10 kilometer classic, 5th in the skate sprint, 1st in the U20 (under twenty) 5 kilometer skate, and 12th in the classic sprint.