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QUOTE

"This will be liberal arts education with a twist..."

— *Dr. Lyman Steil*
on proposed university
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Synchro crown stays in Vail

Vail Snowell wins world championship

By Don Cameron

Daily Sports Editor

They came from all corners of the skiing universe, trying to claim the trophy that symbolizes excellence among ski schools.

They tried every trick in the book — massive air on sit-ski sleds, never-before-seen spin-oramas, Mile High Salutes while flying off a mammoth kicker.

In the end, though, nobody could wrestle the 1998 World Synchro Ski Championship away from Vail.

Last year, Vail Fusion took top honors. Saturday, Vail Snowell fended off serious challenges from Aspen and Austrian skiers to claim the 1998 title.

Captained by Lionshead instructor Franz Fuchsberger, Snowell turned in a flawless final run under intense pressure Saturday. With challengers Boys From the Hood (Aspen) and The Terminators (Ramsau, Austria) turning in stellar final runs, Snowell couldn't afford any major mistakes in its final demonstration.

Snowell saved its best for last. Skiing tight, precise short turns and high-speed crosses at the



Vail Daily/David Manzella

More than 200 of the best ski instructors on the planet ski "the pass en masse" to wrap up the 1998 Paul Mitchell World Synchro Ski Championships at Vail Mountain Saturday. Vail Snowell won the championship.

top, Snowell broke its formation in half midway down the Zot course, with four skiers taking to the big kicker. All four managed to get big air and land safely, before rejoining the rest of the group for a few final turns and an in-synch stop.

That effort scored a perfect 20 from the six judges, the first time in the event's history that has been accomplished.

With scores of 18 and 18 in its other two demos Saturday, Snowell finished the two-day

competition with a total score of 91, also an event record.

Snowell took home \$8,000 for claiming the championship.

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