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SNOWY 'BUNNY HILLS' WHERE EXPERTS BEGIN

By LINDA KNIBBS
State News Ski Bunny

The art of skiing looks so effortless when performed by the experts, but remember that every good skier had his beginning on the bunny hill. Each year thousands of people head for the slopes on narrow boards of wood. Ski schools have been established at almost every ski area to assist skiers in gaining confidence and skill.

The typical ski school is staffed with a number of certified ski instructors who have proved their proficiency by becoming members of the Professional Ski Instructors of America. They give private, semi-private, and group lessons at any level from beginner to advanced. The wise beginner rents his ski, poles and boots from a ski shop until he is certain skiing is his sport. Also, the longer a person has skied, the more he knows what kind of equipment suits his personal needs.

Michigan residents are fortunate to live in a state which offers a variety of ski areas. This term is the perfect time for MSU students to take advantage of the many ski schools, several within three or four hours driving distance. Boyne Mt. has one of the finest ski schools in Michigan, under the direction of Othmar Schneider. Lessons at Boyne are $7 for a two-hour group lesson and $5 for an hour private one. Additional costs are $8 for the daily lift ticket and $7 for rental equipment.

Sugar Loaf, near Traverse City, offers lessons at $4 an hour for groups, $5 an hour for semi-private lessons and $13 an hour for private lessons. Week-day lift tickets are $5 and week-end tickets are $7. Equipment cost is $7.

Caberfae, near Cadillac, provides lessons for $3 an hour for groups, $7.50 semi-private and $10 for private. Lift tickets are $5 daily and $5.50 on week-ends. Rental prices vary with $13 for wood skis and $6 for metal skis.

Dear Mr., at Grayling, lists lesson rates at $3 an hour for groups, $5 an hour for semi-private and $8 for private. Lift tickets are $4 on week-days, $5 on week-ends and $2 on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Equipment costs $4.25 a day and $8.50 a night.

(continued on page 7)

Cover Picture
Bruce Rodgers, Detroit junior, takes Victor hill at Boyne Mountain with style and ease.
State News photo by Mike Beasley

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Self-realization lures skiers

By NORM SALER
State News Ski Editor

It might well be that somewhere around 20,000 MSU students have at one time or another tried skiing because the sport presents the challenge for man to achieve a degree of self-realization and satisfaction. The key is undoubtedly "self," as skiing is man isolated with himself, schussing or traversing nature's creations on narrow skis barely longer than he may be tall.

At MSU, the reflection of the typical skier is cast by MooSUSKI (Ski Club). Its 700 members represent the cross spectrum of the winter sporting enterprise - from Boyne trophy winners to backyard beginners. Yet in talking with a skier, there seems to be certain truths that answer as to why the sport has a lure towards an amusous society.

"Skiing represents total freedom," Jeff Jensen, Groosse Pointe Woods sophomore, said. "There is no specific medium to go through, just you and the hill." Jensen, who has been skiing for 15 years, said that his mood of the day will determine his mode of skiing.

"I really like the speed of skiing," he said. "Early in the day and when I'm fresh on the hill, I ski for speed. But late in the day, when I'm usually tired, I'll take it easy and ski the hill for a longer ride."

Jensen's speed has benefited him in competition, attested by the first place trophy he won at Boyne Mountain with MooSUSKI over term break.

The ski club has given opportunities to MSU skiers to learn, develop and polish skills that might not be available if they skied independently.

Club activities at the Boyne week, three upcoming Boyne weekend trips and the 10-day Aspen trip over Spring break give skiers an economic advantage.

The initial cost of skiing may appear frightening to the beginner, but some club projects offer up to two-thirds off regular package prices of low fees, rentals and lodging.

The success of the club in securing rates more accommodating to the college student's pocketbook is closely related to John Munn, president of club.

Munn, Houghton Lake senior, joined the club in 1965 when its membership numbered less than 50. He was elected president in 1967, when the club contained 60 members. In two years, the membership rose to the present 700.

His devotion to the club and interest in developing MSU skiers was epitomized full term when he was called into the National Guard for his six-months active duty. Munn was able to secure special 24-hour planes to drive or fly from Alabama to East Lansing to conduct meetings and arrange the Boyne week.

The Boyne week rewarded skiers with early season conditions - abundant snow and not ice, uncrowded hills and closer attention by the instructors.

"It was a great experience to ski for a week with 80 kids you didn't know before," Cindy Corbin, Hart sophomore said.

"Boyne was more than accommodating with all our needs and gave us the same treatment as the rest of their house guests. I suppose I'm a ski freak, and found the week a wonderful start on the season." Miss Corbin, a skier for the past 12 years, enjoyed the snows of Victor, Aurora, McCloath and Hemlock, challenging slopes that the novice sees from the lodge and revives as future ventures for winter sport.

In comparison, first year skier Jeanne Keston, Union Pier freshman, took her lessons on the midler Top 5 Notch hill but reflected on the week in a similar sense of accomplishment.

"I've only skied one week but I can say that I'll be a skier for life," Miss Keston said. "I like the sport because it's heavy. I never know if I will get to the bottom of the hill. Skiing brings people together, like the week at Boyne, everyone has a friendly attitude."

Ski club philosopher Woody M. Andrews, Ypsilanti sophomore, equates skiing with freedom from the classroom.

"You're absolutely free and away from the rigors of academics on the slope," he said. "Last term's grades or yesterday's last round won't matter as you are going through a slalom course. A good stem critic or parable takes your mind off the draft or the outside world pressures. Your total thought and concentration is on yourself. That is the allurement of skiing."

Ski Club's Munn aids MSU skiers

The president of MooSUSKI has the distinction of being the only skier on campus who has driven his car down the frozen Red Cedar to campus, never broken a bone while skiing but suffered a fractured ankle while playing paddleball in the Men's IM Hldg. - and given MSU students the opportunity to ski at prices they can afford.

That's John Munn. His planning and 59 students who skied at Boyne over term break as part of the MSU club, and spring break possibly 180 students will be at Aspen skiing at a cost of about one-half the price charged to a skier making the trip on his or her own.

Aspen is a repeat performance for Munn, as he was a certified instructor there three winters ago.

Munn, along with his younger sisters Mary and Jeannie, started skiing 15 years ago. All three were on the National Junior Ski Patrol, but now find college taking up many of those weekends that once could be spent at Northern Michigan's ski areas. The two women are also MooSUSKI members and are planning on the Aspen trip.

Before Munn brings his club people to the Western marga of winter sport, they will have the opportunity to ski three weekends at Boyne. The club will have about 140 skiers at each of these weekend outings.

When Munn plans a ski trip for 800 to 200 people, he faces the nearly insurmountable task of securing lodging, dealing with rentals, arranging group lessons for beginners as well as advanced experts and planning nighttime activity for tired schussers.

This organizational involvement often results in Munn seeing more bookkeeping than skiing on a weekend, or week long trip.

But Munn's work has benefited the sport of skiing on campus, attested by membership figures that show MooSUSKI being the largest club of any kind registered on this campus and the largest ski club in the state.

Slalom

Cindy Corbin, Hart sophomore and winner of the Boyne Mt. Advanced Women's Slalom race over term break, practices the form that helped her make the close turns through the gates of the course.

State News Photo by Mike Beasley

Downhill

John Munn, president of the MooSUSKI, leads club members on a long, winding downhill at Boyne Mt. The members make weekend trips to various lodges around the state and in the West during the winter months.

State News Photo by Mike Beasley
Killy praises U.S. slopes

By NORM SAARI
State News-Ski Editor

Few skiers have been to the mountain tops - and back down again - as often as Hugo Bohm. Bohm's credentials include past coach of the Army ski team, public relations director and certified instructor at Boyne Mountain, Mt. and member of the U.S. Ski Assn. and now national sales representative for a major ski manufacturer.

Bohm was guest speaker last week at the MissSUSKI meeting at the Traverse City Country Club.

His feats on the slopes include skiing nearly three million miles in his lifetime.

"This doesn't mean there is no challenge left in skiing though," Bohm said. "The skier faces a new challenge with new variables every time he puts on the skis."

As an instructor, Bohm said one of the greatest challenges he faces is teaching a novice skier proper technique and style in the Midwest.

"There is no doubt whatsoever that the Midwest is the training ground for the majority of American skiers," Bohm said.

"The ski lodge owners here realize that they are eventually going to lose many of their skiers to the West or Europe. Geographically, the Midwest cannot compete with these other areas for the advanced skier."

Bohm has skied throughout the world, from the glaciers in Greenland to the Alps in France to the mountains in Chile and back to the slopes in Michigan.

He said another reason why Midwest skiing provides such a perfect training ground is crowd control.

"It is not uncommon at all to wait 45 minutes for a lift at Aspen," Bohm said. "But even on a weekend at Boyne, when there are only 3,000 skiers on the slopes, it is very unusual to wait more than four or five minutes for a chair lift."

While skiing in the Army, Bohm never used a lift to get to the mountain tops in Austria. The Army would utilize helicopters to shuttle them to the top of slopes 12 miles long.

For four years, Bohm skied this 12-mile course four times daily, seven days a week.

It is not difficult for the man to have become a commercialized recreation industry.

Much of skiing's popularity he attributes to the sports being "in thing to do."

"Many people will buy lift tickets just to put on their jackets," he said. "They never ski. And look at the popularity of ski-influenced clothing."

"On campus, notice the large number of students wearing ski parkas, gloves, hats and sweaters which look like 'ski-ing' class," he said.

"Skiing has a tremendous camaraderie. But it is important that you ski because you enjoy it. If I were tired of skiing, I wouldn't put my boots in the bindings anymore."
Putting Michigan on SKIS

Bill and Paul's Sporthaus and the Sporthaus of Lansing rank among the finest and most complete ski shops in the country, complete in merchandise service and ski knowledge. Last year, Bill and Paul's Sporthaus was named "S.I.A. Midwest ski retailers of the year!" This award is made annually to the ski shop their members consider the "Best in the Midwest." We are proud of this acknowledgment by the ski industries of America. You will find a full selection of Alpine and Nordic ski equipment and fashions. The tops in brand names will always be found in the Sporthaus. Bogner, Lange, Rieker, Hummanic, Nordica, Head, Kleveland, Yahama, Spinnerin, Obermeyer, Dynimic, Rossignol, K-2 and many, many, more.

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Varied equipment aims at safety

By JACQUI MILLER
State News Ski Bunny

This year, skiers have a wide variety of ski equipment and accessories to choose from. On the slopes skiers are garbed in everything from blue jeans and ponchos to bell-bottomed stretch pants and fur-lined parkas.

After supplying yourself with the basic necessities for warmth, the rest of your ski wear is up to the imagination.

The wind suit, made from a light weight synthetic fabric, is worn under a sweater or jacket. It retains body heat so well, though, that ski parkas can be left at home.

Manufacturers are also making ski boots warmer so that one pair of thin socks are usually sufficient.

Other warmth savers are "warm-up" pants. Competitors have been wearing these nylon leggings for quite some time. Manufacturers are now bringing them out for the pleasure skier in plaid, striped, quilted and floral patterns. They can be worn over the ski pants or without ski pants.

Gloves and mittens haven't changed too much, but their counterpart, the boot, has been subjected to fashion influence.

The old ski boot is still around, but the female ski is (continued on page 11)

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Fate of ski team appears uncertain

The fate of the MSU Ski Team is resting at the mercy of the Athletic Dept. and the male skiers on campus.

The ski team has qualified for the NCAA Ski Championships for the last three years, but suffered a major setback this year when over half of the team was graduated or got married.

The members left from last year are: Tom Polich, Stambaugh senior and captain; Bob Love, Wallace, Idaho junior; and Tony Hedgecock, Jackson sophomore.

The manpower shortage is only part of it; money is the biggest factor.

It takes money to train new members, to practice and to participate in the seven ski meets they qualified for under NCAA rules, Polich said.

All but two of the meets are in the Upper Peninsula and since they often have to leave on a Wednesday or Thursday and stay until Sunday their expenses run high.

"Unless you really love the sport as I do, it is hard to fork out the money for the meets and practice," Polich said.

Sugarloaf Mt., near Traverse City, lets the team use their hills for practice without charging them, but the expense of traveling there hampers them.

Yamaha and K-2 skis are loaned to the team members to test for the season, through Sporthaus in Lansing.

At the first few meetings of the team, it looked as if there would be a lot of enthusiasm, but when Polich set the date for the time trials, only three out of about 30 showed up.

When they raced in the first meet at Cliffsedge in the Upper Peninsula, the weather was so bad that the meet was canceled.

(continued on page 7)

Michigan State News, East Lansing, Michigan

Easy rider
The easiest way to get to the top of a slope is by ski lift. The lifters keep a careful watch on skiers as they keep the lift moving.

Photo Courtesy of Crystal Mt.
Ski Club expands program

The Lansing Ski Club is making way for a bigger and better ski season this year and even better ones in the future. The $250,000 expansion program at the ski club will provide for two to three times as many ski runs and lifts, Roy Schaefer, general manager, said.

At the present time, the Lansing Ski Club has six rope tows and seven runs. Schaefer said he hopes to have some kind of mechanical lift (pomalift, T-bar, or chairlift) in the future.

The fee for the membership is $10 a season. Under "Plan A" of this program, students are eligible for free lessons at $10. Two fees are $1.00 a day.

Under "Plan B" students can get a season pass for $25 after paying the associate membership fee. "Plan C" offers a third alternative of a 5-day pass for $10 along with the $10 membership fee. Two fees for guests of associate members are $3.50 a day.

Schaefer said that he hopes this program will make the ski club's facilities available to all those who want to use them.

The Lansing Ski Club also has excellent snow making facilities and the present base is 3 to 3½ feet deep. For night skiing the hills are equipped with mercuryapor lights which provide better vision at night than the sun does on cloudy days.

The ski school at the club consists of 18 professionals most of whom are from MSU. The pro shop has new equipment and also ski rentals. A set of beech wood, Hart ski poles costs $3 a day.

Newaygo county Winter Park 2 miles north of Newaygo off M-37 Newaygo Park offers 2 bobogen runs with a tow fee of $1.00, under 12; $5.00, and bobogen rentals of $1.00 per hour. There is a beginner and intermediate ski slope with a tow fee of $1.50 and $7.50 for those under 12. 2 snowmobile trails, 9 and 16 miles long, no fee. With a bunch counter and shelter house, Newaygo Park is open Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Phone 652-2813 (Area Code 616)
After-ski activities mean fun

After-ski activities represent to the skier what the 18th hole represents to the golfer. It's a time to relax, reminisce and, of course, recreate.

The after-ski skier is part of a unique actively engaged in finding or creating a good time. He can assume any of several roles depending on the place and length of the trip.

The most commonly found person on shorter ski trips is 50 per cent serious skier and 50 per cent snow bunny, innovator, sleeper and planner.

Ambition to ski prompts most to limit after-ski activities when they might interfere with an early slope start the next day. But partying does have a place in the weekend of the average Midwestern skier.

The strict snow bunny type knows nothing about skiing but is willing to learn from a handsome and wealthy instructor. She joins the ski group about 4 p.m. for what most lodges call a "happy hour." Right off the slopes, skiers informally meet for talk, drinks and snacks.

The sleeper usually uses this time to get in shape for the evening. Come 8 p.m., he's the first to invade the cocktail (continued on page 10)

Snowy slopes and winter winds are not the only things that a skiing weekend offers. Relaxation from the day's activities is usually offered with a dance at Boyne Mt. This unusual picture was taken by State News photographer Mike Beasley.

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Join Those Who Expect More . . . . . And Save
Winter weekends bring skiers to Olin

By BETSY ROACH
State News Staff Writer

Picture this—you've saved up your money for weeks for that big weekend at Boyne Mountain. Up at Boyne, you step out into the cool, crisp air, make the necessary adjustments and then you go-SWOOSH! Down the hill and smack into another skier.

Dr. James S. Feurig, director of Olin Health Center, said the most common ski injuries treated at Olin are torn ligaments or cartilage in the knee and severe sprains or fractures of the ankle.

He said that less common, but seen every year, are head injuries received when the skier collides with a tree or fractured vertebrae resulting from going off a slope in a luge bag.

Dr. Feurig said one out of five knee injuries needs surgery, and three out of five ankle injuries involve a fracture.

He added that most ski injuries treated at Olin are sustained on a weekend trip, most probably in northern Michigan.

"The injury we hate to see is the compound fracture," Dr. Feurig said. "It's usually received when coming down a slope out of control."

He said the skier either loses his balance or crashes into something, the impact of which causes the compound fracture.

Dr. Feurig said most of the compound fractures are in the lower leg, though none are in the area.

He said to avoid ski injuries the skier should be in good physical condition, which bicycling riding or brick walls can help.

"A person who has done absolutely nothing in exercise is bound to be disoriented," Dr. Feurig said.

He said a skier should start with new knowledge about skiing and should use good equipment.

Dr. Feurig said the binding which locks the ski onto the boot should have a good automatic release so the skier can take the ski off when in trouble.

He said sometimes an accident is the result of a challenge which the skier knows it too much for him.

"Discipline yourself to do only those things within the realm of your capabilities," Dr. Feurig said.
ASPEN OR MICHIGAN?

Skiers weigh slope choices

By JACQUI MILLER, Michigan State News Staff Writer

There are definite advantages to skiing at Aspen rather than Michigan, but there are also many disadvantages. Most of the differences are in lodging, slope conditions and traveling expenses.

To find a place to live in Aspen during Christmas or spring break, inquiries and arrangements should be made at least five months in advance. Lodging during these times can run from $10 to $30 a day for one person. From Jan. 15 to Feb. 20, however, lodgings are usually easier to find and less expensive.

The big season for Michigan ski resorts is around Christmas and lodging presents almost as many problems as in Aspen. But in January and February skiers can often get a place to stay a week in advance.

This year Aspen became the first resort town to have computerized lodging placement to facilitate lodge reservations and condominium owners. The computer has approximately 15,000 beds registered and can report, at the push of a button, what rooms are available at each place of lodging and other information needed to rent a room.

The biggest financial difference in skiing these two areas is in getting to them. By car it takes three to nine hours to reach most northern Michigan ski areas from E. Lansing. Aspen, good weather prevailing, is approximately 26 hours from E. Lansing.

Plane fare from Lansing to Denver runs from $186 to $250 round trip and fares from Lansing to Traverse City is about $50 and to the Upper Peninsula, around $70.

So far Aspen seems to be behind in bonus points. But the mountains far outside Michigan's borders in length, variety, snow depths and conditions and lift equipment.

And, you get all these beautiful runs for the same price you pay at most Michigan resorts. Ski lift tickets are $8 a day at Aspen and run from $4.50 to $8 in Michigan.

The longest lift at Aspen Mountain takes 20 minutes to ride. A combination of lifts which take the skier to the top of a mountain can last from 30 to 60 minutes depending on the mountain. The longest lift at Michigan's Sugarbowl Mountain gets you to the top in three minutes.

The average yearly snowfall in Michigan falls between 60 and 140 inches. The average yearly snowfall in Aspen is 300 inches at the top of the mountains and 150 inches at the bottom.

Boone Mountain's present base is 30 inches at its deepest spots. At the top of Aspen Mountain, the base is currently 41 inches deep. Aspen's average yearly base depth is 85 inches and some spots have had snow packed 150 inches deep.

Michigan's ski season usually runs from December 20 to the beginning of March. Aspen runs a full show from Thanksgiving to Easter day.

Boone Mountain has 17 different runs ranging from beginner to expert in difficulty. Aspen Mountain, Buttermilk Mountain, Aspen Highlands and Snowmass also offer runs for all types of skiers but Aspen Mountain alone has 65 different runs and trails to choose from.

For convenience, Michigan ski areas serve their purpose, but in overall excellence and challenge, Aspen has more to offer.

After-ski

(continued from page 3)

lounge or an area night club. Naturally he's wide awake and set for the evening, except that he's 12 drinks behind everyone else.

Most after-ski are smored of one similar interest. That's skiing. While they all try to avoid staying out too late, they don't miss out on the parties. They just start earlier.

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Varied equipment aims at safety

(continued from page 6)

also donning "Juliet" caps and floppy felt hats with streaming scarves.
Goggles, too, have remained pretty standard, but none of the newer brands have better ventilation to prevent fogging.

Knickers aren't as popular as they were a few years ago, yet stretch pants are still holding their ground.

Ski shops are selling matching parkas and pants in bold prints and colors with the added attraction of a complimenting vest. Sweaters are still used by all, most shops selling the tighter knits with multi-colored geometric patterns.

And fur in all shapes, colors and sizes is used wherever there is room for it: in parka linings, hat linings, parka collars and cuffs, as vest type parkas, for after ski boots, etc.

Of course, ski wear is entirely optional as long as the skier is warm, comfortable and flexible.

There will always be a large quantity of weekend skiers still wearing their best up jeans and Levis with anything else that keeps out the cold.

As far as equipment is concerned, most ski experts will agree that the boot is the most important. A good boot will fit close but not too tight, will allow for forward flexing, will provide good support for your foot and will not have any inner wrinkles or ridges.

New boots are being built with buckles instead of laces, and they have flat, narrow straight soles. Manufacturers are also putting synthetics on the outside of the boots for protection.

Many experts will discourage the purchase of used boots with more than three years of normal use, as the boot is usually broken down at that point and offers minimal support.

Skis and bindings are second in importance to boots. Brands of both differ in construction depending on the type of skiing they are made for and the type of skier using them.

Fiberglass and metal are new, the major components of bigger brand skis. It is usually recommended that beginning skiers find a soft flex ski as it will facilitate learning.

However, if the beginner is serious about skiing, or if he is the athletic type, a harder brand ski is recommended. The initial phase may be harder to master, but most likely the skier will be happier with the longer, better performance of the ski.

Poles are used in learning to ski, for motivation, balance and timing. As long as a pole serves these three purposes, it is a good one. But once you have reached the advanced stage of skiing, your poles will simply dip into the powder to time your turns.

Your ski equipment, then, is much more important than your ski wear. And, it is the ski, boots and bindings, along with your perseverance, which will determine the kind of skier you are to become.

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