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Mr. and Mrs. Warren R. Stockton, 2740 McGowan boulevard, Marion, on the hill of Ski-Pal.

Skating Grows More Popular Each Year

By Elmer Ahern

SKATING is outstripping coasting as a winter sport. Along with skating, it's finding more favor each year with outdoor sports enthusiasts, regardless of age, the reason, perhaps, is that there's no long walk up the hill after a fast ride down. Tow lines have eliminated that ordeal for skiers.

The number of ski clubs in the U.S. has increased 10-fold in the last five years. Five hundred were counted in 1962. Nearly a thousand skiers will turn out on a good weekend at Ski-Pal

near Mt. Vernon, according to Dr. Gordon E. Rahn, who opened the ski run seven years ago. People come from a radius of 250 miles. Other ski runs in Iowa are at Decorah, Humboldt, Forest City and Council Bluffs.

Biggest problem in this area is occasional lack of snow and uneven temperatures. But that doesn't deter skiers. When they can't pursue the sport here in Iowa, they take off for a weekend at Mt. Telemark, near Cable, Wis., a day at Galena, Ill., or a winter vacation at Aspen, Colo.



Taking time off from their studies at the University of Iowa for an afternoon of skiing at Ski-Pal are Judy Roth, left, and Bunny Geisler, both of Vinton. Hundreds of skiers will turn out at Ski-Pal, near Mt. Vernon, on a good weekend.

Gazette photos by Tom Morrison



Among teen-agers at Ski-Pal last weekend was Tom Hubbard, 2421 Fourth avenue SE, a student at Washington high school. For those who don't own the necessary skiing paraphernalia, equipment is available for rental.



Putting on their ski boots in the Ski-Pal lodge are Diana Danmore of Moline, Va., and Jimmy Churroski of 700 Grant Wood drive SE, students at the University of Iowa. Skiing activity increases 20% each year in the U.S.A.