

High-Geared Ski Program Under Way At St. Ignace

ST. IGNACE — Bryce's Hill, a privately owned ski area, supported by the City of St. Ignace recreation department for local youngsters, is located five miles west of St. Ignace on US-2.

The hill sheltered by a grove of young hardwoods is several hundred feet high with a run of 1,000 feet.

The city recreation department has assumed the responsibility of operating the non-profit winter ski program for the local youngsters and visitors who like to try out the improved hill.

Under the leadership of a recently formed ski association, a warming chalet, new rope tow, rest rooms, and a large parking area help make Bryce's Hill one of the finest in the eastern Upper Peninsula.

KIWANIS, LIONS and Jaycees also assist the ski association and city recreation department with various programs that include a ski school between the Christmas and New Year's holidays, racing competition during the season, and medal awards as the ski season draws to a close in early spring.

Results are paying off, as area boys and girls have placed well in downstate and upper peninsula junior ski competition.

Skiing as a winter sport has grown tremendously since the city recreation department has included the hill in its sports program four years ago. Several hundred youngsters take advantage of its fine facilities during each weekend throughout the ski season, and adults have also enjoyed night skiing under the lights which were installed last year. Ski patrols provide safety on the hill for the novice and assist in keeping the slope in good skiing condition.

JACK RYERSE of the city recreation department, Ron Walker of the ski association, and P. M. Brown Jr., city attorney have given the necessary leadership to make the Bryce's Hill ski area a much welcomed addition to the overall winter sports program available to local boys and girls.

In 1947 the first double chairlifts in North America were installed at Berthoud Pass, Colorado.