

Ski Season Set At Lake Benton

Brookings, Dec. 26—If you're an enthusiast of the "torture board" trail, you'll be making your way to the hills one mile south of Lake Benton, Minn., during this holiday season.

Now in operation is a ski tow at that location (just off Highway 75) which Brookings winter sports fans are finding mighty handy.

"The snow right now is as good as I've ever seen," observed John Bibby, who quickly admitted he's "strictly a prairie ski authority."

Operating the tow for skiers and tobagganers is Carl Westli of Pipestone, Minn., a dairyman with a yen for winter sports.

This is the third year Westli has offered the service to sportsmen with a hankering for the cold outdoors, and he does it as a "hobby" rather than as a business enterprise.

"There's tin can at the tow for donations," is the way Bibby explains it, "and Westli hopes to collect enough to pay for his travel expenses and that's all."

The tow operates only on Sundays for the Sabbath skier primarily, but it's getting its share of patrons, many of whom are Brookings champions of the torture boards.

"Most of us prairie skier's aren't too familiar with what a good slope is," Bibby concluded, "but I know that hill at Lake Benton is steep enough for me—and with the tow you can make 50 trips down in an afternoon instead of five. It's great sport."