

IOWA BOASTS 8 SKI AREAS

By Charles Bullard

(Register Staff Writer)

HUMBOLDT, IA. — Mention skiing, and the Beautiful People think of St. Moritz, Aspen, Kitzbuhel, Sun Valley, Zermatt or Stowe.

Iowa skiers also dream of the Rockies and the Alps, but on most snowy winter weekends you'll find them on the slopes of Iowa's eight or so ski areas.

As incongruous as it seems, there are ski areas out here on the prairie. Maybe they can't match Jackson Hole's 4,135-foot vertical drop — most are more like 100 feet from crown to base. Maybe not Taos' knee-deep powdery snow, either, but they're a few hundred miles closer.

Besides, 100 feet doesn't seem quite so frightening to the rusty weekend skier.

Lift Tickets Cheaper

Another benefit — a lift ticket at most Iowa areas costs about \$3 compared with the \$8 or \$10 at other winter playgrounds. And no one cares if your baggy stretch pants don't compare



Steve Inman
Came Up Smiling

with the outfit Jackie wore at Vail or Cortina.

In the old days, Iowa skiers strapped hickory skis onto sturdy work boots and down the hill they went. Often an ancient farm tractor provided the power for a rope tow.

But the days of pasture ski-

SKIING—

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