

Why no skiing?

We had a nice Thanksgiving and we even liked the weather, as we are a family that likes snow. So it was with a great deal of enthusiasm that we all piled into the car Sunday for an afternoon of skiing at Squaw Creek Park. With five inches or more of snow, we looked forward to at least a little bit of exercise.

Well, what a surprise to find upon our arrival that nothing was happening.

I ask why not? Why was Squaw Creek winter sports area not operating the rope tow? We know it's not Vail, Aspen or Alta; but it is a good place to get in the swing and get some fresh air and exercise on a Sunday afternoon. Do we have to have 20 inches of snow? The Hawkeye Ski Club, before it dissolved, operated its hill many times with less snow, and we made the best of it.

Why did the county ever invest that much money for a facility they are reluctant to use? This question is difficult to answer, especially when the \$3 lift ticket would help defray some operating costs.

I had heard rumors that the man in charge of county parks didn't like skiers and I was willing to consider it just that — a rumor. But after our experience Sunday, I'm really wondering.

Considering the amount of money invested, the number of people desiring this type of facility and the lack of delivery of the service, this situation has got to be labeled gross mismanagement.

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