

Still in the deep freeze

By Mike Mogul
For The Sun

With another holiday season chalked up as history, skiers in the province had little chance to use their equipment as the weather was just too cold.

Checking with some of the local areas little or no skiing activity took place. Even those who ventured out to the Banff areas found the weatherman there to be influenced by Jack Frost.

Despite the abundance of snow, the frigid temperatures and strong winds spoiled the skiing. Out east, mild temperatures and a total lack of snow, except for the man-made variety, made the plight of the skier agonizing.

Things, however, are about to change. We are about to experience a mild spell of weather that will please all skiers. Every area in the province is reported to be open and this coming weekend should be the best for skiing to date.

The Manitoba Freestyle Ski Team trained with the Ontario Team and members of the National Ski Team in Thunder Bay during the holidays. Again the story was the same, little snow and bad weather.

Team members will be providing free lessons on Saturdays at Stony Mountain Winter Park for all junior aged skiers who (a) want to learn how to ski (b) want to learn some basic freestyle skiing.

It is hoped that through these lessons we may develop a strong junior freestyle program in the province. Further information may be obtained by calling 1-344-5977.

All cross-country trails in the province are reported to be in excellent shape and are awaiting use by the "skinny skiers". Here is an up-to-date snow report according to local areas.

SNOW REPORT

(Ski conditions reported up to yesterday afternoon snow measured in cms.)

Snow Valley, Roseisle — Base 75; new snow 8, open daily, conditions very good.

Stony Mountain Winter Park — Base 85, new snow 8, all runs open, conditions very good.

Birch Ski Area, Roseisle — Base 60, new snow 8, conditions good

Ski Valley, Minnedosa — Base 45, new snow 5, conditions good

Falcon Lake Base — 10-20, new snow, 3, conditions fair

Mount Agassiz, McCreary — Base 60, new snow 9, conditions very good

Holiday Mountain, La Riviere — Base 75, new snow 6, conditions very good

Mount Evergreen, Kenora — Base 20, new snow 3, conditions fair to good

Frostfire, Wallhalla, N.D. — Base 40, new snow, 4 conditions very good

Springhill — (no report)

CROSS COUNTRY REPORTS

Riding Mountain National Park — Very good, all trails open

Provincial Parks

Conditions are listed as excellent at Duck Mountain, very good at Paint Lake, Clearwater, Falcon Lake, Sandilands and Beaudry Park; Good at Spruce Woods, Birds Hill, Bakers Narrows, Norquay Beach, Portage Sandilands, St. Malo, Whitemouth River and Rennie. Fair to good at West Hawk Lake; Fair at Grand Beach, Hecla Island, Seven Sisters and Assessippi. No report from Turtle Mountain.

Winnipeg Parks and Golf Courses

All Winnipeg parks and golf courses report their cross country trails in excellent shape.