

Ski Club Set for First Runs on New Area Northwest of Cooper

By JACK MOSS
Gazette Staff Writer

Weather permitting, the new Kalamazoo Ski Club facilities northwest of Cooper will be put into use for the first time this weekend.

Forced out of their old slope in the hills off Douglas avenue by the pending construction of the north U. S. 131 business route, members of the active local ski club have quite a lay-out on AB avenue.

In addition to the main slope, facilities at the new slope include three trails and several beginner's areas.

BUT SO FAR there hasn't been quite enough snow for good skiing at the new area. This weekend could be right for the opening with a fresh fall.

To reach the new area, travel north on old U. S. 131 four miles north of Cooper to AB avenue (easily identified by the octagonal house on the north-west corner) and take a left to the slopes.

The new facilities are expected to increase the membership of the Kalamazoo Ski Club. Interested persons should contact Carolyn Ehrnstrom, 723 W. South. Her phone number is Fireside 5-3857.

Despite the excellent new facilities, the Kalamazoo Ski Club is no stay-at-home organization. Trips northward to Boyne Mountain, Caberfae and other popular resorts are scheduled through the good skiing months of January and February.

And for those who can't get away to travel northward, plans are in the mill for bringing a top-notch professional instructor to Kalamazoo for a day's instruction work.

Other activities planned by the KSC include several family day events, exhibitions and competition at the Cooper area facilities and presentations of one of the foremost ski experts in the world here Jan. 24.

SVERRE ENGEN, who made such a big hit here last year, will present an illustrated ski talk at Loy Norrix High School auditorium at 7:30 Jan. 24. A capacity crowd is anticipated for the event and tickets will be placed on sale within a few days

at most sporting goods stores and through KSC members.

Just in case the weather doesn't shape up for good winter sports fun around here, we offer this weekend's snow conditions for West Michigan:

The West Michigan Tourist Association reported conditions fair to excellent for the following centers:

Avalanche, Boyne City—Six to 12 inches packed base, 2 inches new snow. Skiing excellent.

Bear Hills, Bear Lake—Eight inches base, 2 inches powder. Skiing and tobogganing very good.

Birch Hills, Big Rapids—Five to 10 inches base, one inch new snow. Skiing good.

Boyne Mountain, Boyne Falls—Twenty-four inches base, 4 inches new snow, skiing excellent.

Brady's Hills, Lakeview—Three inches base. Will open Saturday with more snow.

Briar Hill, Mesick—Eight to 10 inches base, one inch fluff. Skiing very good.

Caberfae, Cadillac—Six to 10 inches base, 2 inches powder. Skiing excellent.

Crystal Mountain, Thompsonville—Eight to 10 inches packed base, 2 inches new snow. Skiing excellent.

Echo Valley, Kalamazoo—Tobogganing and skating good.

Holiday, Traverse City—Six to 14 inches base, one inch powder. Skiing very good to excellent.

Lake Valley, Kalkaska—Ten to 12 inches base, 2 inches new snow. Skiing excellent.

Ludington Ski Area, Ludington—Three to 4 inches packed base. Skiing fair.

Manistee Ski Area, Manistee—Five inches base. Skiing good.

Missaukee Mountains, Lake City—Five inches packed base, 2 inches new snow. Skiing good to excellent.

Nubs Nob, Harbor Springs—Twelve inches base, 2 inches powder. Skiing good.

Thunder Mountain, Boyne Falls—Twelve inches packed base, 4 inches powder. Skiing good.

Ward Hills, Branch—Four inches packed base, one inch powder. Skiing good.

Sues for Divorce

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The wife of Chuck Connors, star of television's "The Rifleman" series, has sued him for divorce.

Mrs. Elizabeth Connors accused the 40-year-old baseball player-turned-actor of extreme cruelty and "disregarding the solemnity of his marriage vows."

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