

MINNEAPOLIS SUNDAY TRIBUNE S Feb. 24, 1957



MT. NORMANDALE'S SITZ-LIFT FINALLY GETS SOME USE
Louise Andrews, 16, was among the first skiers to use the new tow

Twin Cities Ski Operators Seek to Make 'Hay' While Snow Lasts

By JACK NORSTAD
Sunday Tribune Staff Writer

Reaction of Twin Cities area ski operators to Thursday's thoroughly delightful snowfall ranged from ecstatic to merely euphoric.

None of them, of course, expected to recoup more than a small fraction of their season's losses, but neither were they in any mood to sneer at belated favors from the weatherman.

The happy coincidence of Washington's birthday gave at least three of them an excuse to open Friday, and the others were set to throw their towels into high gear over the weekend.

At Mt. Normandale, Gordie Bowen put his aptly-named ("It's just been sitting there all winter") sitz-lift into operation for the first time Friday and was rewarded with a goodly crowd of snow-starved skiers in spite of the cold wave.

Bowen plans to keep Normandale open from noon to 10 p.m. daily (10 a.m. to 10 p.m. week-ends) as long as the snow holds out.

He was not too optimistic about it holding out, however, unless considerable more comes along.

"The sun is too high at this time of year," he observed. "Melts it off even in zero weather. Last year we had only 13 good skiing days in all of February and March."

All tows were operating at Moon Valley Friday, and Marjorie Benedikter planned to keep them going 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily until the ground starts to show through again. Both Mt. Normandale (86th and Normandale in Bloomington) and Moon Valley (14 miles southwest of the city on highway 169) will be open Monday although, in a normal season, Monday is a closing day.

Tows operated at Theodore Wirth (Plymouth avenue and Glenwood parkway in Minneapolis) Friday night and Saturday and are open today 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. They will be running every weekday evening and week-end day as long as possible. Adult ski classes, cancelled earlier, are back from limbo and will be held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings this week.

Norski Hills, located eight miles out S. Robert from St. Paul, is open today from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and will be open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday nights this week.

Snail Lake, one-half mile southeast of the New Brighton arms plant in St. Paul, Buck Hill, 10 miles south of Minneapolis on highway 165, and Pine Bend, 12 miles south of the Twin Cities on highway 55, all are open today and week-ends through what's left of the season.

Anyone for skiing?

HERRING BONES: Mt. Telemark's fabled Cable Ski carnival comes off next week-end with fun and games for everyone. Festivities include a giant slalom race, and the selection of "Miss Telemark of 1957" from a field of six ski queens.

One of the candidates is Pat Perkins, Macalester college sophomore from Willmar, Minn., who was elected National Skiing Queen last November.

The National Ski association has announced the selection of the first four Denver, Colo., a long-time promoter of National Ski patrol activity.

Awards to Tellefsen, Holter and Barth were posthumous.

Selected were Carl Tellefsen of Ishpeming, first president of the NSA; Aksel Holter of Ashland, Wis., one of the founders of NSA; Arthur Barth of Milwaukee, Wis., a former president of both the Central U.S. and National Ski associations; and Edward F. Taylor.

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