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Buckeye 'Mountains' Slick Enough for Skiers

By THOMAS PLACE

This is the winter Ohioans will be schussing in record numbers to ski resorts all around the world. Many of them, though, will be quite content to ski at home—on the Buckeye mountains.

And who is to say they won't have just as much enjoyment skiing the Ohio hard pack as others will the Davos powder.

It figures to be a fun-filled winter around the state, as areas plan races and snow carnivals and ski sores and ladies day. All of them even have fine facilities for apres ski. Possibly not as plush as the major resorts, but certainly as warm and rustic.

Snow Trails, the 'granddaddy' of Ohio areas, once again will host the season's biggest weekend. It will be Feb. 13-14, when it holds its fourth annual snow carnival and state championship races.

Brandywine

An intermediate bowl has been carved out on the left of the twin-T-bars, to match the challenging and interesting Champagne bowl on the right. The two bowls drop off a ridge nearly three-fourths of a mile long.

An extensive novice area has been cleared out and will be serviced by rope tows. It's to the right of Champagne, and skiers will reach it by means of a horizontal rope tow along the base of the hill.

Harold Stoneman, manager of the two-year-old area, reports that the road leading in has been heavily gravelled. It's located off Highland Road in Sagamore Hills, between Riverview Road and Route 8. Telephone IM 7-8197.

Alpine Valley

Many changes have been made at this area on Route 322 at Fowlers Mill in Geauga County. It's more challenging and expansive than it was a year ago, with the completion of its 2,000-foot T-bar run.

Larry O'Sickey will manage Alpine for its second year, and will share ski school directing duties with Glenn Revere.

A new beginners' slope has been developed next to the trim, two-story chalet, and will be serviced by a rope tow. With this, Alpine

still has the interesting trails through the maple forest that it had a year ago. Telephone AV 6-3496.

Boston Mills

Considerably more skiing terrain has been added for the second season. Now the area has as much — if not more — uphill lift capacity as any slope in Ohio. It's at Riverview and Boston Mills Roads, between Routes 21 and 8, north of the Ohio Turnpike.

The major addition was a Hall double chair lift, up the middle of last year's intermediate slope, to the right of the main chalet. The lift goes all the way to the top of the ridge, whereas last winter, a T-bar serviced only three-fourths of this hill.

Manager Tom Kelsey also has designed a broad beginners' area to the left extreme of the bowl and has split it with a T-bar. Two other T-bars remain between the Tiger expert slope and the curving intermediate slope of a year ago.

Bert Fischer again will

head the fine ski school staff.

Mont Chalet

Paul Schuette of Euclid heads the group which recently purchased this area on Caves Road in Chesterland. Primary changes this winter will be re-grooming all of the slopes.

Ferdil Aster will head the ski school, and this still is one of Ohio's best novice and novice-intermediate areas. The slopes are long and rather gentle, perfect for those who want to get the feel of the snow before facing stiffer challenges. A T-bar and several ropes provide the uphill transportation.

This will be Mont Chalet's third season, but first full year for the new lodge. A strong high school program is planned, plus special-package days for ladies and other club groups.

Clear Fork

Austrian Arno Erath will be back to direct the school at this two-year-old area at Butler, 15 miles southeast of

Mansfield. Slope grooming and widening have been the main projects, and plans call for more skiable area off the double chair lift.

Halle's will continue to operate the ski shop, and the Rathskeller figures to be a favorite spot again.

A busy winter of events has been scheduled, with the first being Flair Weekend '64 on Dec. 19-20. Among the others are Ohio Intercollegiate, Jan. 30-31; Halle Junior races, Feb. 6; Eastern Eliminations, Feb. 7 and Halle Open, Feb. 21.

Snow Trails

Ohio's oldest ski area, Snow Trails, continues to grow. It's entering its fourth season, and President Dave Carto says more trails and snow-making coverage have been added.

The area on Possum Run Road, five minutes east of the Mansfield-Belleveille in-



ARNO ERATH

Holiday Hideaway

Off to a modest start last winter, this area in Geauga County offers fine family and group skiing on broad open slopes. Rope tows serve as the lift facilities.

Operated by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Reese, it's in Munson Township, seven miles east of Chesterland on Bass Lake Road, south of Route 322.

Its longest run is approximately 1,000 feet. Ice skating and tobogganing also are available.

Skiing is believing, in VIRGINIA



terchange of Interstate Route 71, has fine uphill transportation with two T-bars and a double chair, plus many rope tows.

Walter Neuron returns as head of the ski school and his staff will be enlarged for more frequent classes. The unique Swiss Barn day lodge has enlarged its ski shop and added a "kiddie kornet."

State championship races for men, women, boys and girls will be held Feb. 13-14. It's Ohio's biggest ski weekend.



GLENN REVERE

WALTER NEURON