

High Hopes in Carroll County

Area skiers looking for new slopes to conquer on an evening or weekend without driving too far should consider High Hopes — less than an hour's drive from Tuscarawas County.

High Hopes is near Harlem Springs, about eight miles southeast of Carrollton on Rt. 43. The area has a 200-foot vertical drop and its longest run is 1500 feet into a newly-cleared runoff area at the bottom of the slope.

Owned by the R. Edgar Snodes of RD 1, Mechanicstown, it may be one of the most challenging small ski areas in the state, if not this area.

Uphill transportation is provided by a rope tow and since the area has no snowmaking equipment, the Snodes advise skiers to call either their home (627-2477) or the ski slope (739-2812) before starting out. So far this season, they have only been open one day, but like other ski slope operators, they are hoping for more snow this season.

SKIING AT HIGH Hopes must be called economical, to say the least. The tow fee is just \$2 and you can rent boots, poles and skis for only \$2.50.

But probably one of the most attractive aspects of High Hopes is the tree-story home at the base of the slope that field serves as headquarters. Its operation is as casual as country living with coffee (but no alcohol) served on the "honor system" and "friendly conversation" either in the second floor lounging area which overlooks the slopes or on the lower level around a warm, coal furnace.

The Snodes are one of the first skiing families of Carroll County and that's exactly how they run their small enterprise . . . one which will make you feel as a part of their family on your first visit.