

Improvements Added Annually

Skiing Is Booming Sport In Ohio

By James Robey
Journal Herald Staff Writer

Snow skiing may well be the fastest growing outdoor sport.

Not that the wintersport enthusiasts could prove it. Unlike

boaters and campers, they don't have to register their equipment or buy a license. So there is no way of telling just how many participants there are.

But when the ski resort pic-

ture in Ohio changes from none to nine in five years, that's a reasonable sign that skiing is booming.

First one to open in the Buckeye state was Snow Trails, five miles south of

ments at Valley High include a major extension of the Sugarbush trail. He said it would appeal to intermediate and advance skiers.

"It is now a 3,000-foot run down the incline via the intermediate route and 2,000 feet for the advance skiers," McPeck stated.

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OTHER improvements include new locations for rope tows, an isolated hill for beginners and a program to escalate the starters.

Valley High also sports an "Eagles Nest," a hut for warming up at the summit, and a day lodge with complete ski shop, ski rental department, cafeteria and lounge with roaring fireplace.

The cost of a day at a ski resort compares with the price of a ticket to a Big Ten football game. For the nine Ohio ski resorts, the average fee for the day-long use of a chair lift is \$3.50 on weekdays or \$5 on weekends. Those who use rope tows instead can shave a \$1 to \$1.50 from this.

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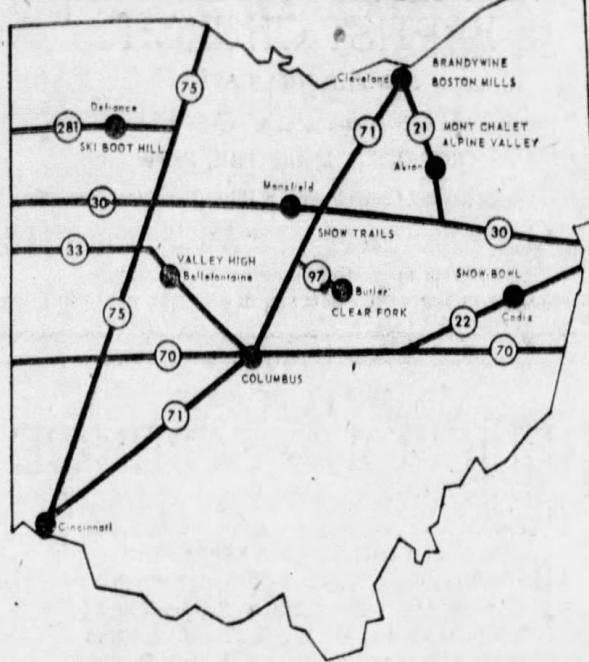
IF YOU don't have your own equipment, you can rent ski boots, poles and skis for about \$3 on weekdays or \$4 on weekends.

"That's really about everything you need except for warm clothes, a lot of desire and a little nerve," stated Falde of Snow Trails.

And for the beginner, another service at the resorts is the ski lesson, the cost of which is about \$2 per hour.

NEXT SATURDAY: Other winter ski resorts.

OHIO COUNTRY FIRST



(First Of Two Parts)

Mansfield. In the winter of 1961 its snow-making machines laid down a carpet of snow on one of the long, beautiful hills of Richland county.

Now it's ready for the '65 season with a double chair lift, two T-bars, five electric rope tows and more snow machines than ever.

"We would like to open Dec. 3 or 4," said Roxy Ralde, Snow Trails manager. "But more than likely it will be the following weekend."

The ski resort operators generally consider Dec. 15 as the start of the season. But most are prepared to open earlier if weather allows.

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FAVORABLE weather for the ski resorts doesn't necessarily mean snow. With several days of sub-freezing temperatures, the snow machines can turn out enough of the white stuff to do the job.

Closest ski resort for Dayton area skiers is Valley High, six miles east of Bellefontaine and one mile south of Zanesfield.

"Our schedule calls for a Dec. 11 opening," said Valley High president Fred McPeck.

"We will start making snow around the seventh or eighth of December," he said.

McPeck added that improve-

The House Doctor

Plastics Eliminate Problem Of Sills