

# Skiing in Iowa on the Increase

DES MOINES (AP) — Time was when Iowans thought of skiing as something to do in Colorado, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Vermont, New York and other far-off places.

Iowa skiers still go to these places, but skiing as a sport and as a business is growing in the Hawkeye State.

Iowa has about three dozen slopes for accomplished skiers and beginners.

Though the Iowa slopes aren't especially long nor are they nestled among towering pine trees or boulders, there are typical and beautiful Iowa views from the tops of chair lifts.

Many skiers say it's possible to learn to ski in Iowa much more economically than at Aspen, Colo., for example. The owners of Iowa ski resorts are working hard to make sure the quality of ski instruction is the best obtainable. Many of the instructors are imports from other states and other nations.

Typical rates for private instruction start around \$7.50 per hour, or down to \$2.50 per hour in groups of from four to 11 people.

All Iowa ski resorts have

gentle slopes for beginners as well as steeper ones for more advanced skiers.

The weatherman cannot be counted on to provide a reliable snow cover year after year in Iowa, especially in central and southern counties.

To augment natural snowfall, five of the state's ski resorts have snowmaking equipment to keep their slopes in better than average condition.

The longest ski slope in the state is 2,600 feet, at Fun Valley, Montezuma. The average is 750 feet to 1,000 feet.

The average drop on the slopes is 200 feet. The largest drop is 250 feet; at Decorah's Nor-Ski Run.

There are 19 rope tows, three motor-powered, one T-bar and a Poma lift.

Most Iowa ski areas have shelters and a hot lunch counter. Nearly all have skis, boots and all other skiing paraphernalia for rent.

All the resorts are fairly new and their equipment is in excellent condition. All are anxious to show that skiing is fun. Last year, there were more than 45,000 ski visits to Iowa slopes.

Most of the areas have National Ski Patrols trained to give not only instruction but first aid when necessary.

Following is a list of the slopes in Iowa. The telephone numbers can be dialed for more information, including reports on snow conditions.

Decorah, No-Ski Run, on U.S. 52 1 1/2 miles north of intersection with Iowa 9; six slopes from 1,500 feet intermediate, 1,000 feet expert and 300 feet beginner; four rope tows, one cable tow; rentals; nights, closed Mondays and Wednesdays; 319-383-4251 or 319-3829962.

Clear Creek Ranch, Lansing; 500 feet slope; one rope tow; rentals; snowmobile trails; lights; 319-533-4166.

Winter Playground, three miles east of Humboldt on Iowa 3, three slopes from 750 feet advanced to 700 feet beginner; two motor powered, one rope tow; rentals; toboggan run; snow-making equipment; 515-332-1316.

Pilot Knob, three miles east of Forest City on Iowa 9; three slopes; one rope tow; rentals; weekends only.

Dayton Dells, five miles east of Dayton on Iowa 175; three slopes, three rope tows; rentals; 515-547-2410.

Holiday Mountain, one mile southwest of Estherville on Iowa 4; three slopes from 750 feet advanced to 800 feet novice; one T-bar, three rope tows; rentals; instructors; snow-making equipment; closed Mondays and Tuesdays; 712-362-9028.

Horseshoe Bend, three and a half miles southwest of Milford off U.S. 71; four slopes, 250 feet to 750 feet; one power tow; 1,000 feet toboggan run; snowmobile trails; 712-338-4007.

Fun Valley, Montezuma, two and a half miles west of Iowa Highway Commission store on U.S. 63; three slopes from 2,600 feet advanced to 100 feet beginner; three rope tows; rentals; instructors; 150 acres snowmobile trails; 515-623-3456.

Ted's Hill, one mile north of Grimes intersection on Iowa 141; three slopes, three rope tows; rentals; instructors; weekends only; 515-986-9092 or 515-279-0677.

Dexfield, two miles north of Dexter on County P-48; two runs, 1,400 feet and 200 feet; two rope tows; rentals; instructors; nights; 515-789-4597.

Crescent Hills, Council Bluffs, 15 minutes from downtown Omaha; two runs; one rope tow; one Poma lift; rentals; snow-making equipment; 712-545-9301.

## Yankton Named Historical City

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Bicentennial Commission has designated Yankton as an historical city for the celebration of America's 200th birthday in 1976.

The commission said Yankton was chosen because of the numerous city projects which are being planned for the event.

A spokesman for the city said Yankton has planned a number of historic restorations, community involvement projects and museum and area tours.

The city of Mitchell told the commission it would ask for

designation as an historical city in March.

In other action, the commission awarded three grants for bicentennial preparation.

The South Dakota Memorial Art Center at Brookings received \$5,000 to finance a traveling art display of works by Harvey Dunn. The display will go on tour in December of 1974 and continue through 1976.

The city of Deadwood was awarded \$1,000 to refurbish a retaining wall at the Mt. Moriah Cemetery, and the State Historical Society received \$1,000 for publication of an index of South Dakota newspapers which are on microfilm in Pierre.

## Funds Allocated for Spirit Lake Lagoons

SPIRIT LAKE, Iowa — Special: Federal funds of \$61,600 from the Environmental

Protection Agency have been allocated to defray 50 per cent of the cost of construction of three lime sludge lagoons at the city water plant.

Cherokee Jaycees Present 4 Awards to Top Young Men

A special meeting of the City Council will be held Tuesday to let the contract, which has been delayed until the Federal agent