

Saturday, October 12, 1985

THE HERALD-PALLADIUM, Ben

## BUSINESS AND FARM



**WAITING FOR WINTER:** Jim Frisbi, developmental director, and Sharon Boveri, assistant manager, look over snow-making equipment at Ski World in Buchanan Township, formerly Royal Valley Ski Resort. Resort was recently purchased by Indiana firm, and will open for season on Thanksgiving weekend. (Staff photo)

### PRODUCE PRICES

Following are wholesale terminal market prices reported by the federal-state Market News Service Benton Harbor office:

**APPLES** — The fall harvest continues under less than ideal conditions. In spite of rainy weather, growers are making progress.

The demand to have pallet bins returned for use in harvesting has created pressure from growers on packers and processors. All of this has forced a heavy volume of apples onto the fresh market. This is generally being seen at every production area in Michigan.

The result of this is a harvest market which has witnessed unusually low prices. This past week at Michigan shipping points, brokers and shippers have booked sales on twelve 3-pound film bags of U.S. Fancy 2 1/4-inch up or minimum size McIntosh at mostly \$5.50, with other varieties generally \$6. Some sales into competitive areas or on full load lots have ranged up to 50 cents per carton lower.

On the wholesale terminal market in Chicago Thursday morning, tray packs of Combination Grade U.S. Extra Fancy and U.S. Fancy

## Buchanan Ski Resort Sold To Indiana-Based Firm

By SCOTT AIKEN  
South Berrien Bureau

BUCHANAN — Ski World, Inc., an Indiana-based firm, has purchased Royal Valley Ski Resort in Buchanan Township and plans to make \$250,000 in improvements before opening for business in November.

The sale was completed last week and the resort, located on Main Street Road north of Buchanan, will be operated under the Ski World name, according to assistant manager Sharon Boveri.

Mrs. Boveri is the daughter of Albert and Sybil Rottmann, who opened Royal Valley in 1972 and have owned and operated it since then. The Rottmanns plan to retire.

The selling price of Royal Valley was not disclosed. The property sold includes 76 acres of land, a lodge building, and other smaller buildings. According to township tax records, the real property's assessed value is \$232,000, 50 percent of market value.

Ski World, with headquarters in Indianapolis, owns another ski resort in Brown County, Ind., and eventually plans to develop a chain of 40 resorts, according to Mrs. Boveri.

Improvements planned at Buchanan before the scheduled Nov. 28 opening date include a complete refurbishing of the lodge and construction of a second cafeteria.

Mrs. Boveri said a pro shop will be opened in lodge space that had been used for offices and will feature quality skis, step-in bindings and other equipment. Ski World's initial improvements will cost about \$250,000, she added.

Under the new ownership, hours of operation are to be extended so the resort will be open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Friday. A special "Midnight Madness" ski session will be held from midnight Friday until 4 a.m. Saturday. Regular hours on Saturday, Sunday and holidays will be 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Ski World this year will have 15 slopes and trails for beginners, intermediate or advanced skiers and has three lifts.

Mrs. Boveri said special events held annually at the ski resort will be continued under the new ownership.