

DAKOTA CLASSIFIED ADS

THE BISMARCK TRIBUNE
Sunday, July 6, 1986

WINTER DREAM COOLED BY HEAT

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There has been a year when old times have become good times and the past has reached forward to bring us back for the memories. Bill Shoemaker won the Kentucky Derby. Jack Nicklaus won the Masters. Don Aronow won an Academy Award. The Every Brothers released a new album.

Yesterday is a rail.
Two decades ago, a group of Bismarck men had a dream to make Twilight Hills ski bowl the dream of being capital of North Dakota. But after a few seasons of unusually warm weather, equipped with an interest from skiers and mistakes in management, the slope south of Mandan went out of business in November 1967.

Can Twilight Hills be resurrected?
Twenty years of nature's work has turned a once-burgeoning ski area into just another hill pasture. But it still carries the mystique and curiosity of a ghost town.
They have expanded their track around the hill of concrete and gravel to the mountain. The chisel. Brokers pieces of wood cut the area that used to be the compressor for the pipe-making machine. Thousands of miles through, will flowers. A noted case of North Star beer provides a succulent for an ant hill. But there are signs of hope. Kind of like purchasing your first

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house. The shatters may be broken and the paint may be peeling, but the proverb holds: usually says, "With a little work, this can be a fine home." After all, yesterday is on a roll. "I think it's a great one," said Bismarck Mayor Marian Haskins, a frequent skier who has looked into the idea of reopening Twilight Hills. "I would be 100 percent behind anyone that could come in with some sort of plan that could make it go again. I would be the first one to lend a hand with a shovel."

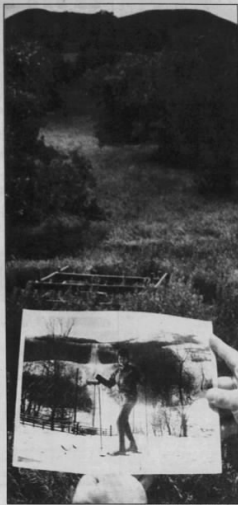
Before the digging, however, there may be knowns to be learned from history.
Roger Peet was on the board of directors of Dakota Winter Sports, Inc., the group of Bismarck businessmen who developed Twilight Hills. Although Peet said he would not reveal a penny of his summer project, he would offer advice. "I would give a lot of moral support," Peet said. "I still have all the materials and a stack of canceled checks. I think the place had potential and I still think it has potential. We were 20 years ahead of our time."

Mandan Chamber of Commerce Executive Vice President Dyer-Maeyer agreed that "it's a great idea." But like his colleagues, he knows nothing of the previous venture. "I'd have to see a proposal," he said.

Twilight Hills, which opened in January 1964, had six runs, varying in distance from a 300-foot intermediate trail to an 800-foot beginner trail. Its vertical drop was 300 feet.
In operation, Frost Five Ski Resort in Wallula has also runs, the longest a half mile, and a vertical drop of 420 feet. Jackson Hole near Jackson, Wyo., has a vertical drop of 300 feet.

"Recently, we had a better ski area," Peet said. "It was as good as anything around except maybe Astoria in Minnesota. It's just a natural ski area."

Keeping warm on the hill was a problem. Peet said the combination of warm temperatures and high humidity turned the snow making process into the Ice Capades.



Today the trees are full and green on the slopes where a former Miss North Dakota, JoAnn Syvrid, was pictured on skis in 1964. Syvrid, now Mrs. John Flaas, lives in Kindred.



Nelson, left, Later, Peterson and Porter were among the dreamers in 1964.

Time is right to reopen Twilight Hills Ski Bowl

It was billed as the ski capital of North Dakota. The dream began in January of 1964, when more than 120 people attended the grand opening of the Twilight Hills ski bowl, located 20 miles south of Mandan on the hills near Hill.
It closed in November of 1967.
Twilight Hills was a project of 18 men who formed the corporation of Dakota Winter Sports. Vernon Peterson, who at the time was the co-owner of the Grand Pacific Hotel, was the president of the corporation. Other officers were Lyle Porter, Jerry Knudsen, William Farnham, Roger Peet and Noel Lutz.
Lutz owned a ski resort in Mandan and named much of his equipment to Twilight Hills. Lutz managed Twilight Hills for two years before moving and joining Dakota Winter Sports for \$6,000 in 1965.
Warm weather continually had effects to keep more on



An artist's conception of Twilight Hills, above, turned into a finished product complete with skiers, right.

What could it cost?

Equipment	Dealer	Estimated Cost
Basic Development	New York State Ski, Wolfkill, NY	\$60,000 - \$75,000
Basic Clinics	Winter Equipment Co., Bismarck, N.D.	\$20,000 - \$30,000
Potential 10 percent	Winter Equipment Co., Bismarck, N.D.	\$20,000 - \$30,000
10 to 20 percent	Winter Equipment Co., Bismarck, N.D.	\$20,000 - \$30,000
Skilled Skier	Winter Equipment Co., Bismarck, N.D.	\$10,000 - \$15,000
Lifts	Winter Equipment Co., Bismarck, N.D.	\$10,000 - \$15,000

