

The Wisconsin State Journal

The Youth Journal

Sunday, January 25, 1948



—Arthur M. Vinje photo

About to take off on the Blackhawk ski run are Hartman Axley and Bob Herman (in parka), two of Madison's many teenage skiing enthusiasts.

Teenage Skiing Fans Find Ideal Spots Near Madison

With the advent of snow, teenagers pack their hickories and bamboos and parkas and take off. Take off for what? For the thrills and spills of the speediest flight man has yet invented, skiing. To the skier there's a thrill all his own as he stares down the tiny white thread of a trail or looks down the sloping run of a jump at the landing far below. This is paradise—to speed over the expansive white wastes like a fleet-winged Mercury.

For fun, for work, or for just plain outdoor exercise, skiing each year lures enthusiastic followers to the well known ski haunts at Twin Valley (Hoofers' Hill), Blackhawk, Bradley's Jump, and Muir Knoll. Here skiers good and not so good, young and old, try their skill in meets, races, or just in fun.

A ski resort, new this year, seems to be another great attraction for all skiers. Pleasure Valley, started this summer at Blue Mounds by Dr. Sverre Quisling, is nearing completion. The first jumping meet was held Jan. 4, on the new slide. Presented then for Madisonians to view were some of the best skiers in the Middle West. Art Daggett, a Madison boy, set the official distance record at 122 feet. Trails have been mapped out by three Madison boys, but as yet they have not been cut. It is planned to become a recreational center complete with a skating rink, toboggan slide, ski tow, and bob run.

Blackhawk, favorite for those who take to skiing less seriously, is as popular as ever. "A good place to practice and polish up your Christies and telemarks," say the teenagers when they talk of the open slopes at Blackhawk. And for those who ski more for recreation, they say, "It's real fun and good exercise, too."

Near Blackhawk, in Shorewood, is the Shorewood Jump—called Bradley's Jump after its creator, Dr. H. C. Bradley, one of Madison's foremost ski enthusiasts. At this jump, weekly Sunday meets are held for jumpers of any age, from those young enough to dare it, on up.

Between Middleton and Cross Plains is Twin Valley, popularly known as Hoofers' Hill. With a newly constructed ski tow and warming shack, this hill now serves young and old alike with excellent downhill and slalom skiing. Teenagers, confidently willing to challenge anything difficult, annually test their skill on the racing trails and the steeper slopes along with the experts. The recent snows have helped considerably and the hill is in fine shape. A ski tow, the plans for which were begun about five years ago, has finally materialized and is now in operation.

Muir Knoll, located on the campus, is the site of the University Jump. Teenagers may enter in class (Jumpers 16-18 years) in the meets sponsored by the Hoofers.

So dust off your skis and polish your ski boots, and let's hit the ski trails.

Reminder:

Jan. 30—
East vs. Central
West vs. Janesville
Double header at the field house.

Feb. 15—
Annual jumping meet at Muir Knoll.

CANDY: To more snow (if it comes).

NUTS: To the scourge of happy high school life—exams.