



Jacques and Anne Joyal, children of Dr. Paul Joyal of Haileybury, try out the new ski tow at the St. Bernard ski village near North Cobalt. The tow and ski runs are expected to be ready very shortly.

—Nugget Staff Photo

Readying St. Bernard ski club near Cobalt

By JOHN HUNT

HAILEYBURY (Staff)—The St. Bernard ski village located five miles southeast of North Cobalt should be in operation within the next seven days. Mike Koshilka of Haileybury, who heads the project, told The Nugget today that the newly-installed ski tow should be operating and the ski runs completed very shortly.

The tow, imported from France, will transport up to 500 skiers per hour. They will sit astride round plastic discs at the end of spring loaded steel poles, and their feet will be touching the ground at all times.

The new tow is 1,300 feet long, and takes skiers up 400 vertical feet. From this height they can choose the main ski run which runs for

half a mile, or the short and very steep ski run, which is some 2,200 feet long, and is designed for expert skiers.

The ski village is a project conceived by Mr. Koshilka, who works for the Children's Aid Society at Haileybury. A group of Tri-Town businessmen have financed the scheme.

Bishop Maxime Tessier of Haileybury chose the Name "St. Bernard" as the saint is the patron of skiers and alpinists.

The Northern Ski Club, which for many years was the leading organization for skiers in the area has been forced to suspend operations during the past two years, as new mining activity has closed its ski runs. However the St. Bernard group has offered to extend all facilities to the

Northern Ski Club, which may build a chalet at the St. Bernard site.

The ski village has title to 167 acres, and an option on an adjoining 160, Mr. Koshilka said. It is hoped to sell land to private individuals or groups who want to build chalets at the village.

Mr. Koshilka said that in time it is hoped to construct a large chalet, which could be used as a recreation centre in the summer.

In the meantime, he and his associates are busy packing the ski runs and making last minute preparations. "I'm going crazy with telephone calls from people anxious to ski," he said. "And not just from the Tri-Towns, but from many part of Ontario and Quebec.