

# Skiing most popular class

Some of the most popular classes at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire aren't in a classroom but on Mount Ole, a man-made hill where UW-EC students learn to ski.

Skiing classes are the first classes to be filled every semester. "There is a waiting line to get into them," said Frank Wrigglesworth, UW-EC ski instructor. He has been teaching skiing at the university for 14 years.

Wrigglesworth noted there are 17 skiing classes this term, including 13 downhill classes and four cross-country classes. Each class has about 26 students, so there are nearly 450 students each semester learning the basics of skiing.

Wrigglesworth said he has surveyed classes that he has taught. "I asked whether or not the students like the course and whether or not they will continue to ski after taking the course," he explained.

"Only one to two percent



Silhouetted against the sky on a crisp winter morning are University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire students in a beginning ski class. Skiing courses at the university are the first physical education classes to be filled every semester. Over 400 students in more than a dozen classes learn the basics of skiing on a man-made hill near the McPhee Physical Education Center.

of the students said they didn't like the course, which means that nearly everyone is enthusiastic about it, and skiing will remain a winter recreation for them," he remarked.

Before there is snow on

the ground, in the fall semester, Mount Ole is covered with specially made plastic mats. Wrigglesworth noted that skiers on plastic mats go slower than on snow. "This allows them to gain confidence and prac-

tice the basic skills," he said.

"On Mount Ole, students learn the fundamentals, and when the course is over they can do well on the regular ski hills," said Wrigglesworth.