



Doug Bowman of Delavan adjusts the nozzle of the snow-making machine at Alpine Village ski resort near East Troy. All five slopes have artificial snow.



A skier starts down a slope at Alpine Village as another group of skiers goes up in one of the five double chair lifts available. There are also five rope lifts.

Artificial Snow Makes Alpine Village, Other Ski Resorts Meccas for Ski Buffs

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EAST TROY — With the boom in skiing, resort owners can't wait for fickle nature to provide snow and so, no doubt, one day as a resort owner sat watching the mortgage interest pile up on his naked slopes he invented the artificial snow machine.

Alpine Village, a spanking new, not yet fully completed ski resort, located south of East Troy on Town Line rd. just off Hy. 24, makes ample use of these machines to cover its five slopes.

Ward McDonald, manager of the resort, said, "The snow makers work some-

thing like a giant spray gun. Air and water are forced into a nozzle under high pressure. A drop in pressure, as the mixture leaves the nozzle, causes almost instant freezing and millions of uniform ice crystals result."

McDonald said artificial snow, because the crystals are so uniform in size, wears better and is less likely to compress under the weight of a skier and so provides better skiing than most natural snow.

Alpine Village is the latest of the convention-oriented resorts springing up near the south end of Waukesha coun-

ty. Rainbow Springs, south of Mukwonago, features golf and hunting to lure convention bound businessmen to its plush motel rooms. Alpine Village features skiing as the center attraction of its 52-room pleasure dome.

To start off the Alpine effect, the last part of the ride to the resort is over a gravel road that appears to have been transported bodily from the Berne route of the Monte Carlo rally, after an erosive rainstorm.

After a three-quarter mile jaunt over the road Alpine Valley is revealed. Construction of the chalet type buildings was started last

spring and construction was speeded up to open in time for the skiing. The work is about 90 percent complete but the rough finished wood walls are given an occasional dash of color by bright hued exposed telephone cables. A swimming pool has also been included in the plans and is available to guests at the motel and special skiing parties.

The five slopes are lightly wooded and provide five trails varying from a teaching-beginners slope to one which is best reserved to those with suicidal skiing urges. All are provided with chair and rope lifts, and are

presently covered with artificial snow.

As in the case of most ski resorts, weekdays are quiet and a skier can enjoy the solitude of the slopes and immediate service at the lifts or an unhurried ski lesson.

Lessons at the resort, like the slopes, go from bare elements to racing lessons. The lessons are either private or are given in groups. Rental equipment, ranging from boots to "ear brassieres," a sexy name given to capless ear flaps, are available in the pro shop.

Of course skiing is not the only reason to go to a ski lodge. The cocktail lounge-

restaurant provides an excellent view of the main slopes and the ski pants clad young ladies there - on.

Other skiing spots nearby are Kettle Moraine near Eagle on Hy. 22; Delafield Ski lodge, which has artificial snow and a lodge; Mukwonago county park; Naga-Waukees county park near Delafield; Silver Ridge Ski club, Hy. 88, south of Oconomowoc, which has a lodge and lifts but no artificial snow; Whitnall park and Mary hill, near Sussex. Alpine Village has a 6-10 inch snow base. Skiing is good on all slopes. New snow is being made each day.