

# Resort continues to expand

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Status quo is a long way off. A \$17-million expansion is already well underway. It's like watching the evolution of a planned community on a film that's set on "fast forward." Bagley said a third golf course, designed by Jack Nicklaus, "will open as early as 1988," the sports complex will be "getting a facelift" and eight outside tennis courts plus a stadium court will be open next summer with an exhibit with either Martina Navratilova or Chris Evert Lloyd as the star. The present outdoor pool will be enclosed and another Redstone designed Olympic size will be built, making four in all.

Nine said his goal was to build, "a total destination sun belt resort in the north. Of course to do that you have to put the type of facilities they have outside in the South inside in the North — and that's expensive."

For winter vacationers (in addition to the huge indoor sports complex) there are 20 kilometers of cross country ski trails, eight kilometers (5 1/4 miles) under lights, horse-drawn sleigh rides and ice skating on a rink under a permanent tent-like yellow canopy which in warm weather is a picturesque outdoor pavilion.

**YEAR AROUND** The indoor sports complex, with its many racquetball and tennis courts, restaurant, pool, whirlpool and saunas, buzzes with activity. And after all that activity, indoors or out, the idea is to provide that greatest of luxuries, a beautifully appointed suite and oversize bathroom with equally oversize tub with Jacuzzi — view of the bay or wall-mounted TV, whichever you prefer.

In all of the architectural design, full advantage is taken of the natural beauty of the Northern Michigan setting, through the use of insulated glass walls, door walls, ceilings and atriums. There are lots of decks, walkways and balconies which encourage guests to move freely and easily from indoors to outdoors. And the views of the bay, the rolling hills and countryside, and the lush golf courses provide constantly changing treats.

This is as true for the condo residences at Deepwater Pointe, The Shores Villas and Singletree condos on "The Bear" as it is for the Tower and the main resort area.

However, nowhere is the panoramic view of the Grand Traverse area more exciting than from the glass-enclosed Trillium, a delightful gourmet restaurant and bar atop the 15-story Tower. In the evening there's live entertainment and magnificent views for those who enjoy, romantic moonlit land and bayscapes.

A man who was leaving through the resort's wide front entrance on a bright summer morning as the sunlight sparkled on the dewy grass and beds of marigolds and snapdragons under a sky was dotted with white, puffy clouds, said to his wife and the bellhop pushing the luggage cart, "Oh, that air, you just don't have that down in Ohio." Slowly, silently, they made their way to the parking lot.

It all began when Traverse City banker who was a friend of Nine's offered to loan him the money if he would take over a faltering nine-hole golf course and restaurant called the Sand Trap (still there for hungry golfers). Nine said that from the beginning, they visualized a hotel on the site and had the zoning changed accordingly. For a while it was a Hilton.

Local residents have mixed emotions about the resort. Redstone said he thinks some are threatened by it because of the changes it has brought to their community.

But it is being used by both visitors and permanent residents. Resort people say they've had to turn people away during many weekends this summer. And that, after all, is what it is all about. The whole area looks a lot different than it did, say 30 years ago, but then who or what doesn't?

Grand Traverse Resort is now owned by a limited partnership with Nine as president.

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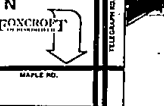

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## Auditions announced

• Classical Arts Ballet Company will hold open auditions 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, at the Dance Theatre of Royal Oak, 513 E. Fourth, Royal Oak. For information, call 545-6780.

• Michigan Ballet Theatre is holding auditions for the coming season at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14 at the Kreson-Okar Dance Academy, 3480 W. Maple, Walled Lake.

There are openings in both the performing and apprentice companies for male and female dancers 12 and over. Girls should bring both ballet and pointe shoes. For information, call 624-5590 or 669-9444.

• Rackham Symphony Choir, Detroit's oldest and largest community based choral group devoted to the classics, will hold auditions at Wayne State University starting Tuesday, Sept. 2. For an audition appointment, call 888-1245.

During the coming season, the 100-voice choir, with orchestra, will perform major works by Bach, Mozart, Haydn and Handel. D. Frederic DeHaven is musical director and Stanley Waldon is assistant director and accompanist.

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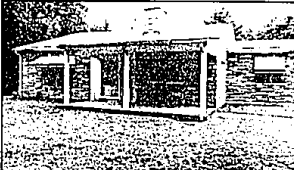
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