



# Ski Heil

By  
**BILL CAMERON**

Winter is here! Although you'd never know it from the weather we've been having locally. But there is skiing at Boyne Mountain and Caberfae. Mt. Brighton had good intentions but was flooded out. It hopes to open this weekend.

Which brings me to the topic of this week's column. Where does one ski?

Fortunately for the novice and beginner we have several ski areas within a two hour drive — Mt. Brighton, Alpine Valley, Mt. Holy, Pine Knob, Mt. Christie and Grampan Mt.

All have artificial snow making equipment and night skiing. Lift lines tend to be long on weekends and most evenings until 9 p.m. That's the hour when thousands of school children vacate the slopes and head for home.

You'll want to head north. There are many good intermediate areas, including Caberfae near Cadillac, Crystal Mountain, near Holland, Timberlee, Sugarloaf, Holiday Hills, Schuss Mt., and Shanty Creek in the Traverse City area and Boyne Country, composed of Boyne Mt., Boyne Highlands, Walloon Hills and Thunder Mt. And don't forget Nub's Nob next to Boyne Highlands.

Boyne Mt., of course is "the place" to ski. An all-day lift ticket will cost you \$8, but you'll find more good skiers there than anywhere else in Michigan. I prefer the Highlands because the runs are longer and not as difficult. The object of skiing at these areas is not to commit suicide but to perfect your style.

**TOW LINES.** . . . I'd like to take my entire pre-ski conditioning class and transport them to the Alps. They're ready to tackle anything. I must give them credit for suffering through the past two months, particularly when I'm not there. You're nice people.

Sorry about canceling the indoor ski school. Guess the timing was bad.



NO, NOT WOMEN from Mars, but lovely ladies prepared to keep warm at outdoor spectator sports with new hooded, insulated capes by Ski-Doo Sports. Black with yellow, black and white stripes; yellow with black and white. Boods are cozy, shearing fur.

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**Dateline:**  
**Outdoors**

By LEM MESEE  
Outdoors Writer

DEAR LEM: I would like to know where really is there a place to run your snow-machine or mini-bike in the city (Livonia). In the city there is hardly any place to ride your mini-bike or snow-machine.

My parents probably would let me have a mini-bike if there was a place to ride it. If you are riding in the street you can get caught by the police. If you get caught you have to pay a fine and you get your mini-bike taken away.

If you have a snow-machine there is positively no place to run them. There is a park nearby, Edward Hines Park, but the snow-machine is prohibited. About the only place you can run a snow-machine or mini-bike is on your own property.

DANIEL SMITH  
Livonia

LIVONIA HAS mini-bike trail on Lyndon near Stark Road which is open. The trail is clearly marked, but there is no supervisor on hand.

John Dufour, director of Livonia Parks and Recreation Dept., says there is no place in the city to operate snowmobiles. Nor are snowmobiles permitted to operate in Hines Park or those of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority.

However, snowmobilers can take heart. The State Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) reports that power-sleds will find facilities available to them at a number of state forests, parks and game areas across the state.

Those nearest to Observerland residents are Brighton Recreation Area, Dodge 4 State Park, Proud Lake Recreation Area and Waterloo Recreation Area. Snowmobilers will find cross-country tracts covering 35 acres at Brighton, 130

acres at Dodge 4, 320 acres at Proud Lake and 160 acres at Waterloo.

IN THE UPPER Peninsula, snowmobile trails have been laid out by the DNR at Straights and Tahquamenon Falls state parks.

In northern Lower Michigan, snowmobile trails punch through more remote areas of Hartwick Pines, Ludington, North Higgins Lake, Petoskey and Wilderness state parks, plus the Rifle River Recreation Area.

In southern Michigan, power-sleds can hit the trails at Algonac, Hoffmaster, Muskegon, Port Crescent, Steeple Hollow, Van Buren and Warren Dunes state parks, and at Bald Mountain, Highland, Holly, Jonia, Island, Ortonville, Pinckney, Pontiac Lake, Rochester-Utica and Yankee Springs recreation areas.

WHEN SNOW becomes four or more inches deep, DNR areas will offer 10 scramble sites for snowmobilers covering about 20,800 acres.

They are: Allegan, Shiawassee River, Dansville, Gourdneck, Minden City, Murphy Lake and Rouge River.

The DNR has also developed about 50 miles of marked trails for power-sleds in these southern state game areas: Barry, Shiawassee River, Flat River, Port Huron and Rouge River. In addition to that, there will be more than 200 miles of unplowed county roads available for snowmobiling in 17 other state game areas.

Remember that it is illegal to stray off designated trails and roads in southern state game areas and in state parks throughout Michigan. On the other hand, all state forest lands, except

for a very few posted areas such as campgrounds and natural areas, are open to unrestricted power-sledging.

The state game areas already mentioned and all state forests are open to free fun. Snowmobilers bound for some state park trails will be required to have motor vehicle entrance permits.

A list of parks calling for these permits is carried in free copies of the "Snowmobile Trails" folder for state parks which is available upon request from the DNR's Publication Room. That office also has free copies of this season's "Snowmobile Trails Directory" for state forests.

Individual maps of state forest and state park trails are offered free from the DNR's Publication Room. Persons seeking individual maps of scramble areas and snowmobile trails at state game areas should contact the DNR's Game Division in Lansing.

Because of limited supplies, the DNR is urging snowmobilers to request maps for only those few particular areas in which they are actively interested. For the same reason, the DNR cannot meet wholesale orders for these maps.

Snowmobiling isn't a city sport, Dan.

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MT. BRIGHTON is doing it again. Holding the second instructors' clinic ever held in a Detroit ski area. Last year was the first time a local area was host to a ski instructors' clinic. The pre-

course for Instructors will take place on Saturday, Dec. 12 and Sunday, Dec. 13 at Mt. Brighton.

Last year, 64 took the pre-course at Mt. Brighton: 48 qualified to take the examination. Of the 48 taking the examination, five qualified for associate instructor and five qualified for full certified instructor. This is 20% of those taking the examination.

Each candidate must have 60 hours of teaching skiing, and the recommendation of the ski school director in order to take the examination. A candidate must also have his standard first aid card.

THE PRE-COURSE reviews the complete teaching sequence which has 10 final forms, and exercises to teach each of the 10 final forms. Candidates must not only ski well, but also be able to explain well in order to become a good instructor. A skier may be the greatest skier in the world and still be unable to communicate his knowledge to others.

Requirements to apply for a pre-course at Mt. Brighton:

- (1) Any candidate, registered apprentice, or associate instructor may take a sanctioned U.S.I.A. pre-course.
- (2) Instructors must apply 14 days in advance of the pre-course date. For application, send to — Central Ski Instructors Association, R. I. Box 65, Slinger, Wis. 53086.

The charges for candidates

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