

Ski! No need to go north

Area skiers don't have to go north to find fun and relaxation and good skiing, according to Bill Warwick, manager of the Glen Eden ski area.

"Our message is that good skiing exists in southern Ontario," commented Warwick during a media day at Glen Eden recently. "Like all ski areas, we tend to be crowded on weekends, but for midweek or night skiing, Glen Eden is conveniently located, offers excellent skiing and instructional programs, and is seldom overcrowded."

Glen Eden is located at the Kelso conservation area just east of Milton.

Glen Eden is the largest alpine ski centre in Ontario operated by a public body. "Eden operates on its own," says Warwick. "There is no public funding." Everything and anything that happens at Glen Eden is done through the money individuals contribute.

Another feature of Glen Eden is their "Ski School". It is considered one of the largest and best qualified, according to Warwick. It is operated by Doug Leeming, who came to Glen Eden after six years of training, as a full time instructor.

Snow-making facilities have been improved this season at Kelso to help give

their patrons the best in downhill skiing. The Halton Regional Conservation Authority, which operates the slopes, recently completed the installation of \$50,000 worth of new underground pipes, cannons and an air-water cooling system to make snow under warmer conditions.

Several features are offered at Glen Eden that compare with events of the northern slopes. This year the Samsonite Downhill will be held at Glen Eden. The Samsonite event is a special fun promotion that comes to Kelso with both the Toronto Regional and National Finals. It is a rare event in which the contestants travel the downhill in Samsonite luggage.

Last year the event went over big and was televised on "Wide World of Sports." It is again scheduled for television.

"Molstar" has moved into the Kelso site and will operate both junior and senior races on the course this season. Labbatt's Test is a way of rating skiers nationally.

Glen Eden is looking for an outstanding year of skiing to make up for last season, in which little natural snow hit the ground.

"We're optimistic," says recreation programmer Carol Paterson, "and it seems our buyers are too." According to Ms.

Paterson season passes are on par with last year, indicating avid skiers are chancing the possibility of another bad ski season.

"Everything is gearing up," commented Paterson. "The temperature is low enough and the machines are operating." Last season the snow making machines were required to cover the complete Glen Eden slopes. According to Warwick the artificial snow is better to ski on but mentally the skiers aren't prepared unless there is snow in their backyard.

Warwick and his staff are eagerly awaiting heavy snowfalls so they can open the starting gate on the 1980-81 ski season.

Glen's got...

Glen Eden is one of very few alpine ski areas in Southern Ontario but operations pride themselves on their facilities and ability to keep the people of the area on well groomed, competitive slopes.

The longest run on Glen Eden's 12 hills measure 610 metres (2,000 feet). The vertical elevation of the area is 73 metres (240 feet). The uphill capacity of their towing system is 6,000 people per hour.



Doug Leeming is in his second year directing the Glen Eden Ski School. Leeming is also a director of the Canadian Ski Instructors Alliance.

Ontario ski guide

The soaring price of gas may put a dent in this year's ski industry, but there will always be the minority of hot doggers looking for some slopes to try their latest deathly defeat.

There are more than 117 different ski areas in Ontario, the majority of them in southern Ontario and within a comfortable day's drive of Halton Hills.

Here's a list of just a few ski areas you might want to try this winter, including a couple of cross country trails.

Code: J-J Bar, T-Tbar, DC-Double Chair, TC-Triple chair, P-Poma, R-Rope, C-Cable.

ABERFOYLE—Aberfoyle Country Club, two miles on Wellington Rd. 34, Hwy access No. 6. Cross country, snack bars.

BARRIE—Horseshoe Valley Resort, 15 miles NE on City Road 22 off Hwy. 400. Vertical drop 325, maximum length 3,200. Lifts: 1 TC, 2 DC, 3 T on 17 alpine runs. Open daily with snowmaking, rentals, licensed dining room, cafeteria, snack bar, accommodation. 65 miles of cross country trails and chalet for cross country skiers.

Medonte Mountain—across the road from Horseshoe off Hwy. 400. Vertical drop of 400', maximum length 4,000. Lifts: 2 DC, 3 T, 3 R over 20 runs. Licensed lounge, snack bar, 36 miles of unidirectional cross country skiing, snowmaking, rentals, open Tuesday to Sunday.

Moonstone Ski Resort—north of Barrie on Hwy. 400, vertical drop 425', maximum length 5,200 (1.6 kilometers), 2 DC, 2 T, 1 P 1 R. snowmaking, snack bar, rentals, pro, open days Tues. to Sun. Cross country trails.

Mount St. Louis: beside Moonstone, on Hwy. 400. Vertical drop 500', maximum length approx. 5,300. Lifts: 1 TC, 1 DC, 3 T, 1 R over 19 runs on 70 acres. Snowmaking, pro, rentals, licensed lounge, snack bar, ski shop, 18 miles (30 kilometers) of cross country trails.

Snow Valley Resort: Five miles NW on City Rd. 22, off Hwy. 27. Vertical drop 350', maximum length 3,200. Lifts: 1 DC, 3 T, 1 R. Snowmaking, pro, rentals, snack bar, cross-country trails. Open daily.

BETHANY—David's Elbow: 60 miles (97 kilometers) from Toronto north off Hwy. 7A. Vertical drop 350', maximum length 3,000. Lifts: 2 DC, 4 T, 2 R over nine runs. Open daily. Snowmaking, rentals, snack bar.

BOLTON—Albion Hills Conservation Area—4 miles N. on Hwy. 50. Vertical drop 125', maximum length 630'. Lifts: 1 R. Cross country trails. Open—weekends.

COLLINGWOOD—Blue Mountain—six miles W off Hwy. 26. Vertical drop 820', maximum length 1.5 miles, over 30 trails, 22 lifts 3 TC, 9 DC, 4 P - 1 T, 5 R. Open daily: nights Wednesday Saturday. Five base lodges, licensed, rentals, pro, ski shop, ski jump, accommodation and entertainment. Cross country, shuttle bus to Georgian Peaks.

Georgian Peaks—4 miles E. on Hwy. 26 (in Thornbury). Vertical drop 630', maximum length 7,920. Lifts: 1 TC, 3 DC, 1 T, 1 J, 1 R. Open daily, snowmaking, pro, rentals, dining, licensed, entertainment, cross country, shuttle bus to Blue Mountain.

HAMILTON—Chedoke Winter Sports Pk.—Aberdeen Avenue off Hwy. 403. Vertical drop 340', maximum length 1,800. Lifts: 1 DC, 3 T, 1 R. Open Wed. to Fri. nights, Mon. to Friday, snowmaking, pro, rentals, snack bar.

KIMBERLY—Beaver Valley Ski Club—2 miles N. off Hwy. 10. Vertical drop 500', maximum length 4,000. Lifts: 1 DC, 2 T, 1 J, 1 R. Open weekends, Wednesday, snowmaking, pro, rentals, snack bar.

Talisman Resort—1 mile N. Hwy. 10. Vertical drop 600', maximum length, 4,000 over 65 acres. Lifts: 3 DC, 1 T, 1 R. Snowmaking, pro, rentals, dining, licensed, 25 kilometers of cross country trails.

KITCHENER—Chicopee Ski Club on Morrison Rd. off Hwy 401. Vertical drop 195', maximum length 2,000', Lifts: 1 TC, 1 DC, 4 T, 1 C. Open daily. Snowmaking, snack bar, rentals, pro.

MILTON—Glen Eden, six miles SW off Highway 25. Vertical drop 243' maximum length 2,000'. Lifts: Open daily, nights: snowmaking, pro, rentals, snack bars, cross country.

Richview Golf and Country Club—cross country skiing, Open daily.

MANSFIELD—Mansfield Skiways: Two miles N. off Airport Rd. above Hwy. 89. 400' vertical, maximum length 2,640. Lifts: 5 T, 3 R, 1 CA, over 12 slopes. Open: Tues. through Sun. nights Tues. to Fri. Snowmaking, pro, rentals, snack bar.

OAKVILLE—Bronte Creek Provincial Park—cross country skiing daily.

ORANGEVILLE—Valley Schuss E. on Hockley Valley Rd., off Hwy. 10. Vertical drop 350', maximum length 3,000' over 15 runs. Lifts: 3 T. Open: weekends and Fri. Snowmaking, pro.

Snowmaking helps nature out

Skiers' prayers for snow are not always answered. And so, to the rescue, comes the snowmaking machine.

But where the device was once con-

sidered a luxury item only needed on occasion, snowmaking is now a vital part of the operation of the majority of ski areas in southwestern Ontario.



A winter wonderland in the making. Phil Mahon, program director at Glen Eden Ski Area adjusts new snowmaking machinery recently installed on the slopes. Approximately 1,000 hours are spent every winter making snow in an effort to keep the grass covered and skiers happy.

Last year Halton Region Conservation Authority recorded a total of 1,000 hours of snowmaking at Glen Eden Ski Hill slopes in Kelso.

According to Phil Mahon, program supervisor at Glen Eden, the same number of hours will again be devoted to making snow this winter.

The Authority recently completed the installation of \$50,000 worth of new underground pipes, cannons and an air cooling system, designed to make snow under warmer conditions.

The result will be more snow and faster production of the man-made white stuff. Although a little coarser than natural snow, the man-made powder makes no difference to skiers, said Mr. Mahon.

An elaborate system of snow grooming machines prepares the snow once it is made.

Snowmaking is practically a fine art, according to Mr. Mahon.

Ideal weather conditions call for cold, dry air with the temperature just below freezing.

A 24-hour-a-day operation, snowmaking requires constant checks for changing weather factors that include winds, temperature and air moisture.

The guns which throw the snow between 50 and 75 feet must be manually aimed and changed according to wind direction.

The Authority owns 10 guns, which can all be put to work at the same time. The snowmaking process is carried out inside the cannon (gun) where compressed air is separated into fine moisture particles and once sufficiently cooled, comes out as powder fine snow.

While snowmaking is considered invaluable to the success of any resort, it is not always foolproof.

Last Christmas the local Authority lost an estimated \$12,000 worth of snow to warm, wet weather, in a matter of a couple of days.

Ski lessons big business

Glen Eden Ski Area manager Bill Warwick feels the program they offer in skiing instruction is as good as is offered anywhere and some of the credit for that must go to Ski School director Doug Leeming.

The ski school has been under the directorship of Leeming since the 1979-80 season when Doug moved to Glen Eden from Chicopee, in Kitchener, where he was the assistant director for four seasons.

In the fall of this year Leeming was elected to the Canadian Ski Instructors' Alliance and will sit on that board for two seasons.

As a full time instructor and now director, Doug's philosophy of ski teaching eliminates the old ideas of just follow me. He uses a more personal approach.

The staff at Glen Eden Ski School are made up of 45 enthusiastic instructors. The instructors have been meeting since early October to go over new developments in teaching and ski techniques. In addition to teaching the instructors are encouraged to upgrade their skiing and teaching standards with the Canadian Instructors

Alliance. Last season 15 instructors upgraded their skills and moved from Level One to Level Two or Three.

The 1980-81 Ski School program will include a complete lesson package for all ages and abilities. The lesson times have been set to accommodate as many students as possible during the most convenient times. Classes are restricted to ten people of the same ability to ensure a more personalized lesson.

During last season, which was one of the worst on record, the Glen Eden Ski School put through 11,000 lessons, which would indicate the incredible potential for the school during a more severe winter.

This year for the first time, Glen Eden is offering a "Freestyle" program for those interested in ballet and moguls. This program is designed to supply professional direction to the younger freestylers and develop their skills under experienced supervision.

For further information on the Glen Eden Ski School, contact Doug Leeming at 878-4131.

Clear the slopes for 'Samsonite Downhill'

Media types from across Canada will be meeting at Glen Eden in early March to decide who is the best suitcase racer in the country.

The "Samsonite Downhill" will be a special feature at the Kelso site this winter and should mean some national publicity for the area ski slope.

Last year, for the first time Samsonite sponsored the event and this time around they have expanded their program to include three preliminaries, in Alberta, Quebec and Ontario (Glen Eden) and in February with

the winners advancing to the national finals at Glen Eden. The finals will be televised on "Wide World of Sports."

The object of the event is to get down the ski slopes as fast as possible riding in a suitcase. The event is described as a most unusual slip-sliding test of endurance and talent, but there must also be a bump or two. It seems they have warned all contestants not to forget their underpadding.

What media people won't do for fun and competition!

Bray brothers strike gold

Halton Hills athlete of the year and local swimmer Mark Bray brought home some gold after the North York Hall of Fame meet at the Etobicoke Olympium recently.

Bray finished first in both the 100 metre and 200 metre butterfly to win the gold medals.

He also earned a silver and bronze finishing second in the 50 metre freestyle and third in the 100 metre freestyle.

The meet was held Dec. 13.

Bray made dramatic improvements on his previous best times to win three silvers and a gold at the Brantford Invitational meet last month.

He was also awarded the top swimmer trophy in the 13-14 year old category by the Guelph Marlins, a swim club with which Bray was formerly associated.

Now both he and younger brother Peter spend at least 16 hours a week each practising with the Burlington Swim Club. They changed clubs in September, they said, in order to swim with coach Thurlow Park.

Younger brother Peter, competing in the boys' 10-and-under category, slashed 25 seconds from his previous best time in the 400 metre freestyle to earn fourth place at the Hall of Fame meet.

He took sixth in the 200 metre freestyle

and swam his best times in the 100 metre butterfly and 100 metre backstroke.

Then he helped his team to a third-place finish in the boys 10-and-under 200 metre medley relay for a bronze and a first place finish in the 200 metre freestyle relay for a gold medal.

Peter took eighth place in both the 100 metre backstroke and 100 metre freestyle in the Brantford meet last month. He won a silver in the 200 metre freestyle relay as part of the Burlington team.

Peter was also honored as top swimmer by the Marlins, in the 10-and-under group.

AHS paddlers tops with 23 firsts

Acton High School swim team placed first in a meet at Lions Club Pool recently.

They collected 255 points on the strength of 23 first-place finishes, in the Dec. 9th meet. T. A. Blakelock was second with 143 points and Perdue High School was third with 56 points.

AHS results:

Sr. girls 200 medley relay: 1st—Karen Coats, Heather Thatcher, Cathy Grandy, Renata Brillinger.

Jr. boys 200 medley relay: 1st—Dave Quinn, Bev Baker, Brad Ottaway, Edwin Ninaber.

Jr. girls 200 medley relay: 1st—Nancy Allan, Naomi Donat, Laura Brillinger, Kirstin Jarvis.

Jr. boys 200 medley relay: 1st—Eric Seiz, Stephen Sojka, Tracy Parker, Ross Turner.

Sr. boys 200 metre freestyle relay: 1st—Norm Bourassa, Brad Ottaway, Edwin Ninaber, Richard Stanley.

Jr. girls 200 metre freestyle relay: 1st—Nancy Allan, Ula Duess, Connie Soros, Laura Moore.

Jr. boys 200 metre freestyle relay: 2nd—Tom Krandonok, Darren Edmundson, Scott Hibbard, Ross Turner.

Jr. girls 100 metre freestyle: 1st—Renata Brillinger, 3rd—Kathy Coats.

Jr. boys 100 metre freestyle: 1st—Mark Duess, 5th—Eric Seiz.

Sr. girls 50 metre freestyle: 1st—Miriam Beaton, 2nd—Cathy Grandy.

Sr. boys 50 metre freestyle: 1st—Richard Stanley, 5th—Norm Bourassa.

Jr. girls 100 I.M.: 2nd—Kirstin Jarvis, 3rd—Jane Sewell.

Jr. boys 100 I.M.: 1st—Tracy Parker, 2nd—Stephen Sojka.

Sr. girls 100 I.M.: 2nd—Heather Thatcher.

Sr. boys 100 I.M.: 2nd—John Mooney,

3rd—Dave Quinn.

Jr. girls 50 metre butterfly: 1st—Laura Brillinger, 3rd—Kathy Coats.

Jr. boys 50 metre butterfly: 2nd—Tracy Parker.

Sr. girls 100 metre freestyle: 1st—Miriam Beaton, 2nd: Karen Coats.

Sr. boys 100 metre freestyle: 2nd—Norm Bourassa, 3rd—Edwin Ninaber.

Jr. girls 50 metre freestyle: 1st—Renata Brillinger, 3rd—Kathy Coats.

Jr. boys 50 metre freestyle: 2nd—Mark Duess, 3rd—Stephen Sojka.

Sr. girls 50 metre butterfly: 1st—Cathy Grandy, 2nd—Laura Brillinger.

Sr. boys 50 metre butterfly: 1st—Richard Stanley, 2nd—John Mooney.

Jr. girls 50 metre backstroke: 1st—Nancy Allan, 2nd—Jane Sewell.

Jr. boys 50 metre backstroke: 1st—Eric Seiz, 3rd—Ross Turner.

Sr. girls 100 metre backstroke: 1st—Karen Coats.

Sr. boys 100 metre backstroke: 1st—Brad Ottaway, 3rd—Dave Quinn.

Jr. girls 50 metre breaststroke: 1st—Barbara Lamon, 2nd—Naomi Donat.

Jr. boys 50 metre breaststroke: 1st—Mark Duess, 2nd—Richard Kilpatrick.

Sr. girls 100 metre breaststroke: 1st—Heather Thatcher.

Sr. boys 100 metre breaststroke: 1st—John Mooney, 2nd—Bev Baker.



Mark, left, and Peter Bray and a whole host of trophies and medals the two have won over the past few weeks. Each picked up several gold, silver and bronze medals in the Hall of Fame meet in Etobicoke Dec. 13 and in the Brantford Invitational last month, as well as trophies honoring them as top swimmers by the Guelph Marlins Swim Club, of which the boys were formerly associated. Now they swim with the Burlington Club, putting in 16 hours a week each.

Kovacs swims to silver

Local swimmer Adrienne Kovacs won a silver medal in the 100 metre butterfly at the North York Hall of Fame Meet at Etobicoke Olympiad Dec. 13.

She won the medal with a time of 1:21.3. Kovacs also placed fifth in the 400 metre freestyle and seventh in the 200 metre individual medley.

More than 40 clubs from across Canada competed in the event. Kovacs swims with the Guelph Marlins Club.