

Ski Club braves frigid weather, finds skiing good on Vermont trip

Over vacation, when the weather got a little too nippy, most of us simply bumped the thermostat up a few notches, threw another log on the fire and grabbed some more cocoa and Christmas cookies.

But while most of us lounged in comfort at home, members of the UNC Ski Club braved temperatures as low as 41 below on a trip to Smuggler's Notch, Vt., for five days of skiing.

"It was pretty cold," club president Kyle Shatterly said. "One day it was supposed to be minus 101 degrees at the top of the mountain with the chill factor. They had to close the lift that day because you would have been frozen by the time you reached the top. But, really, skiing warms you up fast and you don't notice the cold."

About 30 Ski Club members went on the trip and stayed in resort condominiums just 100 yards from the chair lifts. Trip coordinator Ray Luce was somewhat disappointed by the turnout.

"In past years about 150 people have gone to Vermont over Christmas, but this year interest was down," Luce said. "I think it may have been due to the Bluebonnet Bowl and the state of the economy."

Shatterly and Luce estimated that the trip cost \$300 for most members, with \$140 going toward lodging and lift tickets.

The Ski Club takes annual Christmas and Spring Break trips, usually to Vermont, although five years ago the club traveled to Colorado.

In addition to the two major trips each year, the club organizes weekend excursions to North Carolina slopes and conducts clinics at its meetings. This year Dick Stevens, a ski shop proprietor at Sugarbush, Vt., for 20 years and a competitor in various races, held clinics for the club in exercise and conditioning, ski tuning and ski equipment and clothing.

"I volunteered to be the instructor and give advice because I have a lot of experience, I was in the business for 20 years and a lot of kids asked

for my help," Stevens said. "We talked about bicycle riding and special exercises to train for skiing, the mechanics of making a ski turn, how to sharpen your edges, how to maintain your bindings, custom fit your boots and how to best insulate against the cold."

Stevens and Donna Bernhardt, after finishing their studies at UNC, intend to return to Vermont to work with handicapped and amputee skiers.

three times as long as any at Beech or Sugar, which are the best spots here. There is so much variety of terrain and so much area to spread skiers out on that it's not crowded. I've been to Killington and skied an hour without seeing another soul."

"Down here is OK for the South, but most people get bored running the same slopes," Shatterly said. "It's just beautiful up there and we intend to go again in the spring — which is really the best time of year because it's warmer."

Another group of about 55 UNC students, organized by Watt Alston and Michele Musgrove, went with Stevens to Sugarbush, Vt., for five days of skiing.

"To me, it's like Ft. Lauderdale at a higher altitude," Musgrove said. "It was a real marathon but lots of fun — a constant runaround of happy hours and skiing. All the people in the bars got a charge out of our group's southern accents. They gave people free drinks just to talk. But the skiing was the best part.

There are about 75 trails and you can really lose yourself."

"The entertainment, restaurants and bars in the village at the base of the mountain provided a nice break from skiing," Alston said. "There were no lift lines and the instruction at Sugarbush is the best in the country."

Dick Stevens also enjoyed his homecoming visit.

"Skiing in North Carolina is to a great degree yo-yo skiing. For the snow, professionalism and sheer beauty, you can't beat Vermont."

Notes: United Christian Fellowship "Brothers" won the men's rec goal mural basketball tournament... Next clinic in the Lifetime Leisure Activities program is Racquetball Jan. 28 from 6-8 in 304 Woolen. Sign up now for Bowling clinic... The UNC Hockey Club rebounded from two straight losses to rout N.C. State 9-3 Tuesday. They play UNC-Greensboro tonight at 6 at the Daniel Boone rink in Hillsborough and travel to Georgetown this weekend.

IMs & Clubs

By Linda Robertson

According to Luce, conditions at Smuggler's Notch were near perfect.

"The East has had two discouraging years, but this year the snow was excellent. For people who have only skied in North Carolina, there is no comparison. Even the shoiest lift up there is

Doherty to rejoin Heels

Freshman forward Matt Doherty has been OK'd by doctors for action when North Carolina travels to meet third-ranked Wake Forest for a key Atlantic Coast Conference basketball game tonight.

Doherty, a 6-7, East Meadow, N.Y., native, has been sidelined for five weeks with a fracture in his left thumb. Doherty fractured the thumb in mid-December in an accident at a local movie theater.

Doctors released Doherty to play after he had completed his first full practice since the mishap on Tuesday, but the extent to which Doherty will play in tonight's game is uncertain.

Doherty played seven games before the injury, averaging six points per game and three assists. He also averaged three rebounds per game. North Carolina coach Dean Smith has used Doherty at both the guard and forward positions, although the smooth-passing freshman plays the majority of the time as small forward.



Matt Doherty

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Tickets for the North Carolina-Virginia basketball game will be distributed Sunday at 2 p.m. The game will be Feb. 3 at 9 p.m. in Carmichael.

Student tickets for the Feb. 6-7 North-South Doubleheader in Charlotte and for the Georgia Tech game in Carmichael Saturday are still available at the ticket office.

The Sports Information Office will hire four student assistants for the 1981-1982 school year. Interested students, who should have backgrounds in writing or photography, can pick up applications and sign up for interviews at 132 Carmichael through Jan. 28.

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