There's No Business Like Snow Business

1980-81

A Special Advertising Supplement to the Daily Nexus
Slope Fashions Revealed

The era of the super-hot, super-fashionable, super-expensive ski outfit was thought to have passed us by. These past few years, the best skiers on the slopes were more likely to be wearing a faded pair of Levi's bellbottoms and a windbreaker than a form-fitting, meticulously detailed, eye-catching ensemble. However, thanks to the efforts of noted French designer Jean-Claude Remy LeBlanc, the well-dressed skier may be making a comeback.

LeBlanc discussed his new line of ski wear in this exclusive Nexus interview.

Nexus: What makes you think that American skiers are ready for high-fashion ski clothes?

LeBlanc: Well, you know, I began my clothing empire by designing high-fashion jeans. It was formidable. The more we changed, the more we sold.

Nexus: Have the prototypes of your new line of clothes already made their debut?

LeBlanc: Oh, oui. They have been creating quite a sensation at all of the finest European ski resorts.

Nexus: Which retail chains have you negotiated to carry your fine?

LeBlanc: None whatsoever. My line of ski wear is far too exclusive to be sold over the counter. Our designers and construction people accept personal orders only; my understanding is that, at this time, there is a waiting list of approximately six years per item.

Nexus: I see. And who will be able to afford these rather extravagant articles of clothing?

LeBlanc: Only the most serious and dedicated ski enthusiasts. You know, Emperors, Sheiks, Crown Princes...that lot.

Nexus: Let's see, and you expect people to actually take my beautiful clothes up on those filthy mountains, do you?

LeBlanc: Sacre Bleu! Zoot Alosi! You don't mean that you expect people to actually take my beautiful clothes up on those filthy mountains, do you?

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UCSB Hits the Slopes

Ski Team

It's not too difficult to find students here at UCSB who like to ski. The UCSB Ski Club, with the largest membership of any club on campus, is evidence of this fact. Through the Ski Club, many of UCSB's skiers have an economical opportunity to get in a week of skiing during Christmas, a couple of weekends during the quarter and possibly another weekend during Easter. This leaves the average student, who likes to ski, relatively satisfied and absolutely broke. However, for those few students here whose affection for skiing borders on the obsessive, UCSB's Ski Team is a panacea to their obsession. Along with aiding these aspiring alpinists, the Ski Team also provides UCSB's campus with several ski related events which can be enjoyed by campus skiers of any level. Two such events are planned this quarter to help get campus skiers ready for the season.

There is probably no better nonchemical means to get excited about the upcoming ski season than a good Warren Miller ski movie. The UCSB Ski Team is bringing an hour and a half of this stimulant to the campus on Sun., Nov. 23 at Buchanan Hall, Rm. 1910. Along with the film, door prizes, donated by All-American Sporting Goods, will be given away. All this, for a buck and a half, isn't too bad considering what the same dose of Warren Miller is going for in town.

The next step to get ready for a good season is to take the old skis out of the closet and see if they still have bases and edges. Since most skiers have a slight paranoia of burning hot P-Tex into their bases or dragging a metal file along their edges, they usually end up paying some resort ski shop an exhorbiant price for the work. This year, the UCSB Ski Team is providing two days of ski tuning, during which campus skiers can have their bases and edges renewed by Ski Team members, people who have been tuning their own racing skis for years. This will happen on December 5th and 12th, just in time for the winter All-Cal trip. The tune-up service will be priced well below that of any shop yet conducted with the same high level of expertise. Finally, the UCSB Ski Team is putting together a ski weekend during winter quarter, which will include, in addition to recreational skiing, a chance for people to try a little racing and get some free instruction from some of the more accomplished racers on the team.

Ski Club

Snow skiing at UCSB? Maybe not. But what about snow skiing at Sun Valley, Mammoth, Tahoe, Aspen, or June Mt.? The UCSB Ski Club offers fun filled trips to all these places. This club now offers 260 members terrific discount rates on traveling, lodging, and ski lift tickets. In addition, many of the local sports stores give a 10-20 percent discount to club members. This savings can certainly add up for those planning to buy new skis, bindings, or boots.

Many on-campus activities are also offered by the ski club to keep both mind and body tuned for the slopes. The club will be showing a number of excellent ski movies (including that by Warren Miller) during the winter quarter.

Meetings are held every other week to keep members well informed on the latest plans for activities. During these meetings, guest speakers frequently demonstrate the newest equipment and sportswear. These demos prove helpful for members who are deciding whether to purchase new equipment and what to look for.

The club recently bought two Techni-skis, for members to use at no cost. These "skis" simulate downhill skiing on a skate-board like apparatus. The Techni-ski helps to strengthen leg muscles and to develop coordination. The "skier" simply cruises down any gradually sloping road.

To keep members' skis in top condition, the ski club also provides a tune-up bench, file, and iron for use before trips. It is nice to know that even at a "beach school" so far away from the snow, the Ski Club provides ample opportunities for UCSB students.

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schools (at least in the Santa
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secret that a fantastically
spirited and funny ski film
by the Sorcerer of Slope,
Warren Miller, comes out
every year at around
Christmas time. It's
around Christmas time
again, and you know what
that means: you smart
devils. Yup, this year's
feature ski film is here.
Not only is it here, but you could
be there to watch it for a
mere pittance. Enjoying
skiing was never so cheap.
Ski People is Warren's
newest title, the latest in a
line of thirty feature-length
films that we have grown
accustomed to expect
around this time of year, and
are as welcomed as
stockings over the fireplace
and (for us Jews) candles on
the Menorahs. As the title so
boldly suggests, the movie is
about "the personalities of
ski people" and how they are
"as different as the terrain
they frequent." The film
contains the visual
stimulation fellow skiers will
find almost as orgasmic as
riding the slopes themselves.
It is Miller's personal doff of
the ski cap to all the folk who
contribute to make our
wintertime exciting, en-
terprising, and expensive.
In Warren's films, people
are the stars (and those are
the ones who most often see
stars), but they also serve to
record the styles of dress
and modes of ski equipment
over the passing years.
Where boots once cost two
and four dollars, and skis
practically double that,
times, methods, and prices have
changed. Ski People is a
culmination of the new
equipment, the touching
(Please turn to page 7)
Miller Discusses New Film

(Continued from page 6) personal effects, and some of the best skiers in the world.
The movie takes you all over the world, and over some of the most challenging terrain ever negotiated.
With his camera in hand, between his legs (skiing is so exciting), or planted stationary in the snow, Warren and his multi-talented and dedicated cameramen show us people who keep their composure when on one ski going down the hardest run in California.
and ski manufacturers who handcraft each pair of skis they produce, among other ski people. (Ah, now I understand the title.) Like his other films, this one abounds with Warren's humanitarian, unselfish wit, humor, and photography. He places the differences in skiing year by year in one statement: "There was a time when my skis were too long, my boots too short, and my pants were baggy. Now my skis are short, my boots are tall, and my face is baggy." Miller narrates the film, throwing in expletives like "Oops!" "Ouch!" and "Gack!" making the already humorous visual scenes even more hilarious.

For those of you who have witnessed Warren's previous films, you'll know what to expect: dazzling photography and comedic narration. Of course, those unfamiliar with previous efforts will know what to expect just by reading the previous sentence. In any case, you'll see that Ski People is a ski picture about people who ski, and if you people see Ski People tonight at the Magic Lantern at 7 or 9 p.m., you'll admit that Ski People is the ski picture to see.

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Snow Camping is Breath Of Fresh Winter Air

Many of us really appreciate the out-of-doors, especially on a hot summer day. Imagine how beautiful everything looks and feels on a cool crisp winter morning. It’s exhilarating, the cold biting into your cheeks as you start the morning campfire and hot chocolate is on its way. If you’ve often thought about a winter back packing trip, but never took the step, this winter is as good a time as any to enjoy the mountains. There are a few considerations to think of when preparing your pack.

The main point is it’s cooler in winter than summer, so be sure you have the right clothing, shelter, food and other equipment. It’s a good idea to start with a few one-timers, so you can get the feel of the differences before you go for the week long excursion.

On clothing, remember that layering a few light garments is always warmer than one heavy coat because this creates warm air pockets between material. With this in mind, a good system would be wearing a wool set underneath and over that, a light wool sweater. When on the move, this may be all you’ll need. A heavier wool sweater or shirt over this, and basically a water repellent shell parka should do. Wool material stays warm even when damp. You’ll want to keep dry, so try to remove clothing as you are getting warmer to avoid excess perspiration. For the lower half of your body, wear a pair of wool pants with light long-johns underneath. A pair of wind pants are actually necessary at times of wind because the wind-chill factor could make a 40 degree temperature actually 20 degrees against your body. As far as your feet, a thin wool sock layered neatly in a good pair of hiking boots should keep you comfortable. Don’t forget to waterproof your boots with a good water proofing agent. Sno-Seal is a good brand. I read once that a plastic bag and socks over that will keep your feet dry, which is important.

Now, you’re warm so off the trail, but what about bedtime? Easy, once you know a tent. An extra pair of thermals, and wool’s socks, other than the ones you’ve been walking in all day, are your pajamas. Try to generate as much heat as possible before snuggling in your bag and while getting into it. Also, a foot saving tip is thin—put hot water in your water bottle and put that in the bag at your feet. You’ll be grateful you did.

As for equipment, your terrain must be considered. If you’re camping in snow, a tent must be self supporting. That is, it will stand by itself in snow. There are however, long snow spikes that you can pick up at local mountaineering shops. An alternative to a tent in snow is this: build a snow trench. It’s easy, all you need are a few pieces of equipment. First in a shovel which you use to actually cut trenches in of snow and stack them on the sides of your trench so that as you go deeper, your walls are going up too. Next, lay skins or sticks across the top from wall to wall, and a sheet of plastic goes over the top and is secured tightly all around. Another sheet of plastic for the floor, snow, sea, the other end is your door, and there you have it. It’s actually warmer to winter home than it would be in a tent.

Your bag, of course, must be temperature rated for the climate you are going to be camping in. An envelope cut is a must for insulation from the ground, and an extra square 2 x 2 is a good idea to bring along in the bag around a fire. As for the fire, lay down first the greenest sticks as a base then build your fire on that.

Food is a good source of internally generated heat. Eat warm things at your meals, like macaroni and cheese, gooey pudding and soup for a good dinner. Protein and carbohydrates are what you want a lot of because they are good for your. Breakfast is maybe oatmeal, bread and peanut butter. Try to eat everything warm, lots of hot chocolate with meals and sitting around a fire is always my idea of relaxing.