



**MAN'S HANDIWORK:** Artificial snow covers the Great Gorge slope at McAfee, N. J. The resort opened recently.

## Rosendale Awaits Top Ski Jumpers —Also More Snow

By MICHAEL STRAUSS

AS recreation area operators in the Northeast were wondering about the effect a warming trend might have on their slopes and trails this weekend, members of the Rosendale Nordic Ski Club were hoping to stage the first major jump on their 70-meter hill on Sunday.

The new ski flying center, located in the little upstate village of Rosendale, in Ulster County, is

being serviced by a snow-making system. Unseasonably high temperatures, however, would eliminate the ability to manufacture new snow if needed. The machines can produce only when the temperature is below freezing.

There seemed little doubt that recreation centers in the East would be invaded in large numbers despite the weekend forecast. Almost everywhere, from areas close to metropolitan New York through New England, there seemed enough snow available to keep schussers busy.

But even in parts of Vermont and New Hampshire there were signs that skiing's entrepreneurs were doing a little worrying. Managers of some areas in these parts were beginning to talk in terms of spring conditions. Colder weather, however, was predicted in the mountains tomorrow night.

Such popular retreats as Stratton, Stowe, Okemo, Mount Snow, Magic Mountain and Bromley in Vermont were down to fair-to-good conditions. Cannon, Gunstock and Black Mountain in New Hampshire were placed in the same category.

The only centers with an "excellent" in their reports were Glen Ellen, Waterville Valley and the Mittersill. The possibility remained strong, though, that this high rating might change by this morning.

Typical is the case at the new Great Gorge center in McAfee, N. J., which was opened for the first time a few days ago. The platter-pull slope at Great Gorge has been in operation and Wednesday night, the area's maintenance crew was on hand all night hoping to add to the hill's depth. It was a futile vigil. The weather was too warm.

At Rosendale, which can be reached via the New York Thruway's interchange at Kingston, club officials prepared to welcome the East's top jumpers. Included in the arrivals expected are Roy Sherwood, Ralph Semb, Roger and Bernard Dion and Per Coucheron.

All except Coucheron are familiar to those who have watched jumping competitions at Bear Mountain in recent years. Coucheron, a Dartmouth student, formerly was a member of Norway's national team. Sherwood is an ex-United States champion.

Short schusses: The Avaloch Inn at Lenox, Mass., has installed a 1,000-foot T-bar and rope tow. . . . The title of "the world's biggest skier" has been bestowed on Frank C. Wilcox, a 7-foot-2-inch schusser. Wilcox, who frequents the slopes at Vail, Colo., supports himself by taking photographs of skiers. His nickname? Shorty, of course. . . . The nursery at Butternut Basin in Great Barrington, Mass., is now providing a soup and sandwich luncheon that costs only 25 cents for its toddlers. And, if junior and sis get weary while awaiting skiing parents, the tots can tumble into bunk beds especially constructed to accommodate the small small fry.