

What's new at Northstar

From halfpipes to video games, there's a lot going on at Northstar-at-Tahoe in 2005-06.

Progression Park

Always a leader in progressive terrain park offerings, Northstar has teamed up with Burton Snowboards to create the first Burton Progression Park.

This park will cater to new park riders with small and medium sized features, ideally spaced for teaching. Northstar will offer freestyle terrain lessons this season to help riders ease into rails and jumps with proper technique.

Burton will also offer beginner-specific rental equipment to accelerate the learning curve.

Guests can find the Burton Park between Sidewinder and Forerunner.

Northstar Is The Prize

Amped 3 was designed to be played on the long-awaited Xbox 360, the successor to the popular Xbox, which is scheduled to be released fall 2005.

The *Amped 3* video game features authentic snowboarding gameplay where characters can execute stylish tricks, take white-knuckle sled rides, and experience death-defying crashes.

Players can also tweak their tricks, gear, runs, music, and special effects with the precision controls while saving their crew.

Each level is modeled after existing ski resorts and Northstar was selected as the final and toughest level of the game.

Park Wishes & Pipe Dreams

Northstar will add a standard halfpipe to its collection of freestyle features this season. The pipe will be located on Gulch, and will offer a less intimidating alternative to the 17-foot superpipe.

Perfect for getting the

feeling of carving turns on the walls, this pipe will also be visible from the Lodge at Big Springs deck, located at mid-mountain.

For park fans, Northstar will expand The Straights and Pinball to make room for more terrain features and improve the flow and layout of the parks. Expanding these runs will also improve the traffic flow through these areas.

In addition, park riders will see some unique features this season, thanks to Northstar's new sponsorship partners.

It is likely that top brands such as DC Shoes, Burton Snowboards and Matix will all make their presence known in Northstar's terrain parks by creating signature features with the help of Northstar's expert design team - Snow Park Technologies.

Kids Rule

This season, the children's-sized Paw Parks will get an extreme makeover.

Now known as Adventure Parks, each one will have a distinct theme that will be reflected in the signage, the new entrances and the features within the parks. Six different parks are located throughout Northstar's mountain.

Northstar now also offers kid-friendly and family-friendly lodging units with gift-baskets containing coloring books and other gifts with a children's theme, children's movies for rent (DVD and VHS), complimentary high chairs and cribs upon request.

Kid's trail maps, family travel tips on the website and a kid's corner in the reception area offer added convenience for vacationing families.

Ride In Style

Guests entering the new Village at Northstar will be pleasantly surprised to find valet attendants awaiting their arrival.

Northstar takes the hassle out of parking the car and schlepping the families' ski/snowboard gear from the depths of the parking lots, instead offering this luxury at the auto drop, just steps from the new Village at Northstar.

Also, Northstar will protect its guests from the elements with new, enclosed buses that will shuttle guests from their cars to the Village entrance.

Gone are the days of cold, wet rides on open-air trams. Now guests will ride in comfort and style, starting and ending their day on a high note.

Keep up to date with CT

Not only can skiers and snowboarders keep up to date with the latest road conditions by calling CalTrans Road Conditions number at



(800) 427-7623, if you visit their web site you can actually see the road conditions!

Http://video.dot.ca.gov will take you to CalTrans' system of cameras with locations including Meyers, 50 at Ski Run, Kingvale and Truckee.



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Olympic fan club

LAKEWOOD, Colo. - National Ski Areas Association President Michael Berry has announced that the NSAA has partnered with the U.S. Ski Team and U.S. Snowboarding, and Snow Monsters (snow-monsters.com) in developing a national program to show support for U.S. athletes competing at the 2006 Olympic Winter Games to be held Feb. 10-26 in Torino, Italy.

As part of the program a special 2006 Olympic coloring book has been developed in cooperation with NBC, who will broadcast the games. Each page of the coloring book features various winter Olympic events, and on the back page is a pre-addressed fan letter to the U.S. Ski Team and U.S. Snowboarding athletes.

In addition, the fan club invites resorts to create a banner supporting the U.S. Team or individual athletes. The banners will be sent to Torino and presented to American athletes. Photos will be taken and emailed to resorts for distribution to local media and guests in time for display during the NBC Olympic broadcast. For information, visit www.snow-monsters.com/2006fanclub.