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What's New of 1999/00--More Convenience, Luxury, Snowmaking and Terrain

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For Immediate Release

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BIG SKY, Mont. ? Big Sky Resort? s 1999/00 winter improvements offer guests more of what they are looking for in a resort. With Big Sky? s two new lifts and three new ski-in, ski-out lodging developments, residents and guests will feel like they have a ski area in their own backyards.

The five new runs on 100 acres of terrain make this backyard even bigger. New snowmaking will make the snow even more consistent. The soon-to-be opened four-star Summit at Big Sky condominium hotel will add more luxury and pampering. And as always, the uncrowded lifts and slopes will make skiers and snowboarders feel like they have their own private area.

New Lifts and Ski-in, Ski-out Lodging

The new Lone Moose triple chairlift will allow guests staying in the spacious new 2-, 3- and 4-bedroom units at the Lone Moose Meadows Condominiums to step onto Big Sky? s slopes by walking out their doors. The lift also accesses nearly 100 acres of additional terrain on the newly-opened Flat Iron Mountain. The Lone Moose triple will transport skiers up 1,284 vertical feet in just eight minutes, and increases Big Sky? s total vertical feet of skiing to 4,350 feet.

The Lone Moose Meadows Condominiums are also located on Lone Mountain Ranch? s cross-country ski trail system, giving residents and visitors quick, convenient access to over 65 kilometers of world-class trails.

The Cascade double chairlift will transport homeowners and their guests from Cascade Highlands, located on the north end of the Mountain Village, to Big Sky? s slopes. Owners of the .75- to 2.0-acre lots in this area can also watch the progress of a skier access tunnel under the Jack Creek Road and further infrastructure improvements.

The Summit at Big Sky

The new Summit at Big Sky condominium hotel, scheduled to open June 1, 2000, will allow Big Sky to offer 800 more guests the ease of slopeside accommodations. This four-star, luxury property stands 300 feet from two high-speed quad chairlifts and a four-passenger gondola. The Summit will provide skiers many conveniences, including ski storage just steps from the snow; a mountain-side, terrace-level restaurant and bar; retail shopping; underground parking; and a fitness center and whirlpools.

When complete, the Summit, Lone Moose Meadows and Cascade Highlands will bring Big Sky? s total ski-in, ski-out beds to approximately 2,000.

Big Sky 5

? Big Sky skiers have always appreciated our lack of crowds on the slopes and in our base area,? said Taylor Middleton, Big Sky?s general manager. ? We feel these new lifts and developments continue to enhance Big Sky?s overall guest experience and will improve the skiing and lodging options as well.?

New Terrain

With the opening of the new Lone Moose triple chairlift comes access to five new runs on 100 acres of terrain. The five new trails are on Flat Iron Mountain, located just east of the resort?s Andesite Mountain. This terrain offers a little something for everyone: one beginner trail (Little Calf), one intermediate run (South Glades) and three advanced/expert trails (Bobcat, Coyote and Lone Moose).

The new intermediate South Glades run is a gentle, gladed tree run that allows skiers and snowboarders to access Big Sky?s Southern Comfort triple chairlift. To Thunderwolf provides easy access to the ever-popular Big Horn run and the Thunderwolf high-speed quad. New advanced/expert runs include Bobcat, a steep, north-facing mogul run with a pitch of almost 40 degrees.

New and Improved Snowmaking

Over the summer, Big Sky has installed over five miles of new snowmaking pipes. The new pipes will allow the resort to cover 50 more acres of terrain with snowmaking, including Hangman?s and Safari trails on Andesite Mountain and bring Big Sky?s total snowmaking acres to 400. Workers have also upgraded the snowmaking on Tippy?s Tumble, the upper section of Ambush, Elk Park Ridge and the half-pipe.

Big Sky has also installed 50 new Boyne USA-patented snowguns to deliver the pressurized air and water mixture that forms snow at temperatures of less than 25 degrees. With the new snowguns, the resort has doubled its capacity for snowmaking and will now be able to make snow twice as fast. The new snowmaking compressor house?s log structure makes the building blend beautifully into its surroundings. The new compressor will improve the quality of the resort?s man-made snow by allowing the snowmaking system to take in twice as much air. In all, Big Sky has spent over \$275,000 on snowmaking improvements for the 1999/00 season.

Vertical Reality

In honor of Warren Miller Entertainment?s fiftieth anniversary film, Fifty, Big Sky Resort is joining many of the world?s renowned resorts in naming a run after a Warren Miller film title. Big Sky chose to name a trail after Miller?s 1994 film, Vertical Reality, which features the resort. The newly-named trail is located on the resort?s famous Lone Peak between Castro?s Shoulder and The Wave. As an expert-only run with over a 45 degree pitch, Vertical Reality definitely lives up to its name.

Big Sky Resort is owned by Boyne USA, a Michigan-based, family-run corporation that owns several mountain and golf resort properties across the United States, including Crystal Mountain in Washington; Brighton Ski Resort in Utah; and Boyne Mountain, Boyne Highlands and the Inn at Bay Harbor in Michigan.