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**VAIL SPENDS \$110 MILLION**  
 Vail Resorts, which owns 10 resorts in the US as well as Perisher, Australia's biggest ski resort, has announced it is spending \$100 million on resort upgrades across its resorts ahead of next winter. Around half of this has gone on the inter-connection of Park City Mountain and The Canyons resorts in Utah to create the largest ski area in the US, but they're also spending on a new six-passenger chairlift, the Avanti Express, at their home mountain of Vail. The Avanti Express is a key access lift on the front side of Vail Mountain, serving intermediate and advanced terrain, dispersing skiers and snowboarders from the Lionhead area to mid-mountain so upgrading the lift should reduce wait times and improve reliability.

**BRECK TO VOTE ON LIFT TICKET TAX**  
 Breckenridge residents will vote on November 3 on whether to impose a new 4.5 percent tax on lift tickets to pay for long-term funding for parking and transit projects. The agreement provides that Vail Resorts will guarantee that, if passed, the tax will raise at least \$3.5 million per year for the town with the annual amount to be increased each year with inflation. Breckenridge officials compared the tax to the 4 percent parking tax the Town of Vail imposes on lift ticket sales.

**TELLURIDE GETS MORE NON-STOP AIR SERVICE**  
 The Telluride/Montrose Airport will have new nonstop service from Las Vegas and New York as well as additional routes from Los Angeles and Chicago and expanded service from Dallas and Phoenix; along with continued direct flights this winter from Denver, Chicago, Houston, Newark, Atlanta and San Francisco with 14 nonstop flight programs from 11 major cities.

**CHERRY PEAK OPENS IN UTAH**  
 After a false start last winter, Utah's newest ski area, Cherry Peak Resort, is opening this season in Northern Utah. Located near the Idaho border just 15 miles from the city of Logan, the resort features three triple chairlifts, a comprehensive snowmaking infrastructure and a 1.25 mile-long run.

**BRIGHTON IS 80 YEARS OLD**  
 Brighton, near Salt Lake City, celebrates its 80th year in the business this season. Located just 35 minutes from the SLC airport, Brighton is Utah's only resort that serves 100 percent of its terrain via high-speed lifts.

**WHISTLER IS 50 YEARS OLD**  
 Originally opening for skiing in the winter of 1966, Whistler Blackcomb is kicking off their 50th anniversary season with 50 Years Of Going Beyond, a movie five decades in the making. Check out the Official Movie Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UiqSB4TLWk4>  
**EXPANDED TERRAIN FOR SILVER STAR**  
 Silver Star ski resort in British Columbia, Canada will add over 100 acres of additional ski terrain, a new race center, and expanded winter sports options with gladed tree skiing at the intermediate and expert levels is being expanded by more than 90 acres.



**CHAMONIX JOINS MOUNTAIN COLLECTIVE**  
 Chamonix Mont-Blanc Valley has joined the Mountain Collective TM as the newest global affiliate for the 2015-2016 winter season. Chamonix is the first destination in Europe to be included in the Mountain Collective. All passes for the 2015-2016 season will include two days of skiing and riding at Chamonix. The iconic European winter resort becomes the fourth global destination in The Mountain Collective outside of North America, joining Thredbo, Australia; Hakuba Valley, Japan and Valle Nevado, Chile.

**€36M 'MILLE8' CONCEPT COMPLETED AT LES ARCS**  
 Les Arcs adventure in creating a new type of ski resort experience reaches its culmination this winter with the completion of the famous French resort's 36 million euro 'Mille8' development. The idea with 'Mille8' is to create an on and off slope entertainment hub in the heart of the ski area which is not limited by normal daylight hours for slope opening, nor by the ski season, as it switches to a summer mountain sports complex in summer. On the snow attractions include a 900 meter long toboggan run and a freestyle ski or board course for all levels. Off the slopes a large aquatic Center with swimming pool and spa will be a big draw. All are together in one location on the slopes at Arc 1800.

There are dozens of different entertainment options on offer ranging from teatime with the Center's penguin mascot for young children through to hot tubs with a view of Mont Blanc of a golf simulator session for adults and lots of classes and events are laid on including team toboggan challenges, snowball fights and Zumba classes. Mille 8 opens before the ski lifts do, with 'Snowga' yoga and Nordic walking sessions for earlier risers, and keeps operating long in to the evening. Big screen TVs strategically placed give information and entertainment and it even has its own app. A new gondola serving Mille8 opened last winter but the final major piece of Mille 8 will be added this season, The Lodge, which will be an indoor entertainment venue including a restaurant. The Lodge will be opening from the start of the coming season in December, but a grand opening event is planned for February 16, 2016.

**A NEW GONDOLA AT PASSO TONALE**  
 Passo Tonale in Trentino, one of Italy's highest a most snowsure ski areas, where the season often continues to June, will have an all new gondola lift to the slopes this winter. The new gondola replaces two surface lifts, taking skiers and boarders up from Passo Paradiso to the top of the glacier with a mid-way intermediate station at the rifugio Capanna Presena. Passo Tonale is part of the Skirama Dolomiti Adamello Brenta, one of the largest ski areas in Europe.

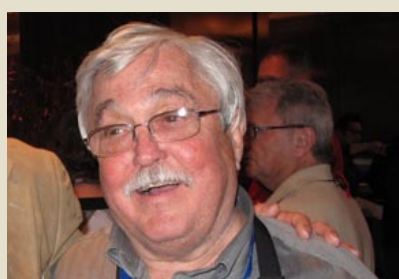
**SAALBACH-HINTERGLEMM BECOMES AUSTRIA'S LARGEST SKI AREA**  
 The big news is that Saalbach-Hinterglemm is now Austria's largest lift-linked ski area. A new piste down to and new gondola back from the formerly separate neighboring resort of Fieberbrunn has added 70 kilometers of runs, which brings Saalbach-Hinterglemm's total to 270 kilometers.

**SKIWELT INSTALLS WORLD'S FASTEST CHAIRLIFT**  
 Above Brixen, on the south side of the SkiWelt, the old Jochbahn quad chair has been replaced by an eight-seater, which the resort says is the world's fastest chairlift, travelling at six meters per second. It's double the length of the old quad, starting much lower down the mountain but finishing at the same place. In Ellmau, Austria. A new 10-seat gondola also replaces the Hartkaiser train, doubling carrying capacity.

**ZERMATT'S NEW SIX-SEATER**  
 In Zermatt, Switzerland, the Hörnli T-bar that ends above Schwarzsee, below the Matterhorn glacier, has been replaced by a new six-seat chair.

**THREE NEW HIGH SPEED CHAIRLIFTS IN TROIS VALLÉES**  
 A few miles down the valley from Les Menuires, France, at the western end of the Trois Vallées in St Martin de Belleville, the long, slow St Martin 2 quad chairlift from mid-mountain above the village to Tougnète at 2,434 meters is being replaced by a six-seater, as is the popular Combes link quad chair from Méribel Mottaret towards Tougnète. And the slow double chair from Le Bettex below Les Menuires is now a high-speed quad chairlift.

**2022 WINTER OLYMPICS DECISION**  
 The 2022 Winter Olympics will be held in Beijing, Beijing will be the first city to host a winter and summer Olympic Games. Unusually there were only two candidates Beijing in China and Almaty, Kazakhstan, meaning that the decision was guaranteed to see the third Olympic Games in Asia in a row, after the next winter Olympics in 2018 in Pyeongchang, South Korea and the 2020 Summer Games in Tokyo. The lack of interest among European and North American countries in staging a Winter Olympics is a concern for the IOC. Four different candidates from Europe who had originally expressed an interest in staging the 2022 Games all dropped out, in several cases as a result of public referenda on whether to stage the Games, largely due to perceived costs and some excessive IOC demands. Both 2022 candidates have very short winter sports histories in terms of Alpine events. China has rapidly expanded its ski infrastructure over the last 15 years, in Kazakhstan it is more like five years.



The National Ski Club Officers' Newsflash is emailed each month to America's ski club officers by The National Ski Club Newsletter on a year-round basis to augment our four printed issues which published in November, January, March, and May. If you wish additional club officers to receive the Newsflash, please email their names, club name, their office within the club, and email addresses to [wilbanks@ski-club.net](mailto:wilbanks@ski-club.net).



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