



FACES OF LODO



Good bye Ski Train! We hardly got to know ya!

If you grew up here in metro Denver and were a member of the Eskimo Ski club you knew that every Saturday morning during the winter months, you could hop aboard the ski train early in the morning and after three hours of the most breathtaking mountain vistas arrive in Winter Park in time for the opening of the ski lifts.

Then, after a fun filled day on the slopes you would simply relax and let the train take you back to Denver. It made for a long day, but a great one. Well, like many luxuries defeated by the current economy, the Ski Train is a thing of the past.

Jim Bain, Ski Train President and General Manager said in an interview that the price just kept going up and up. The insurance premiums were skyrocketing. The fees for using the tracks increased. The price of fuel went through the roof. The cars were 40 years old and parts were hard to come by. Raising fares was making a ride on the ski train a once a year luxury.

When Algoma Central Railway Inc., a subsidiary of Canadian National Railway made a bid to buy the train, Mr. Anschutz and Jim Bain did some soul searching, a little negotiating, and the decision was made. Twenty one years of financial losses were over. The little train that was the Ski Train was gone.

Will it come back? Jim Bain said someone else in some future market may invest in it. But don't look for it any time soon. Let the lore begin! As for Jim, well, Mr. Anschutz has other plans for him.

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