

Cedar Point spends \$4 million

More than \$4 million in improvements at Cedar Point this season will include a new major ride, a new IMAX movie and a new children's attraction.

Topping the list will be Avalanche Run, a ride that aims to capture the excitement and novelty of winter bobsledding. Cedar Point says it's the first ride of its type in the Midwest. Avalanche Run will feature 10-passenger, free-wheeling bobsleds that will negotiate the banked curves and straightways of a quarter-mile-long steel chute.

Unlike roller coaster trains that follow a track, the bobsleds will create their own course as they slide from side to side in the trough. They will reach a speed of 40 mph.

Avalanche Run will be located in the northeast corner of the park, at the former site of the Wildcat roller coaster. The Wildcat has been relocated next to the Cedar Point Cinema.

For those who prefer their thrills with both feet firmly planted, "Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets" will offer its own special brand of entertainment. Shown on one of the world's largest indoor screens with the advanced IMAX motion picture system, the 33-minute adventure film will trace the history of mankind living in the Grand

Canyon from 2250 B.C. to the present day.

The movie will also showcase rare footage of remote areas of the canyon seldom seen by visitors, along with breathtaking scenes of the waterfalls and rapids of the Colorado River.

Later in the season, Cedar Point will unveil Berenstain Bear Country, a new children's attraction to be located on the main midway at the former site of the Earthquake ride. Slated to open in mid-June, the themed attraction will provide a new home for the storybook characters, and will offer youngsters even more to see and do. Details on Bear Country will be announced in the near future.

Due to the popularity of last season's midnight closings, they will be repeated this summer, every Friday and Saturday, from July 5 through Aug. 24.

Sunny weather, an improved economy and a drastic reduction in the price of season passes were among the factors contributing to a successful 1984 season at Cedar Point. More than \$1 million in capital improvements enabled the park to expand facilities for disabled guests and refurbish several park buildings.



Photo courtesy Cedar Point

The Berenstain Bears will move into a new home in mid-June. "Berenstain Bear Country" will be built at the site of the former Earthquake ride on the main midway.