

# Eugene blessed with nearby skiing

By Don Peters  
Emerald Associate Editor

It's winter. Crisp air and snow. Time to ski again.

After last year's disastrous season, in which local downhill resorts were plagued by lack of snow, this year is looking to be a complete turnaround. Early snowfall has meant early starts for two local ski areas, with a third — Hoodoo Ski Bowl — scheduled to open any day.

Oregon downhill skiers have a variety of different areas to choose from. Eugene residents are blessed, with three top resorts within easy driving distance; Hoodoo, Willamette Pass and Mount Bachelor.

Mt. Bachelor is the biggest resort of the three. The Bend-area resort, 132 miles from Eugene, opened for the season Nov. 20. Nine chair lifts and 54 runs await those who brave the two-and-a-half hour drive. Getting to Mt. Bachelor is easy from Eugene. Take Highway 126 east to Highway 20 and follow the signs.

As of Friday morning, Mt. Bachelor was reporting a 33-inch base with five inches of new powder. There is no night skiing.

The resort beat the traditional Thanksgiving-day opening, unlike last year.



Photo by Eric Evans

Recent University graduate Dave Morgan cuts through Cascade snow. Three ski areas are within easy driving distance of Eugene.

"It was a normal opening," said Laurie Engster, sales agent for the resort. "Only three times in the past 30 years have we not been open on Thanksgiving."

Engster said Mt. Bachelor is a "family-oriented" mountain with plenty of cut-price packages available. Lift ticket prices are \$29 a day for adults, \$16.50 for children ages 6-12. A season pass will set you back \$629.

Willamette Pass is a smaller resort with four chair lifts, one rope tow, 18 runs and 20 kilometers of cross-country ski

a.m. to 4 p.m., children 6-12 pay just \$14. There is Friday and Saturday night skiing from 12:30 to 9 p.m. Cost is \$18.

Season passes are \$325, but University students with proof of enrollment pay just \$250.

Hoodoo Ski Bowl was the last local resort to open, welcoming skiers this past Saturday with a 23-inch base.

Hoodoo has a host of amenities for avid skiers. Three lift chairs and one tow rope service 24 runs. There are free timed runs down the resort's downhill course on the weekends, and night skiing opens after

**'It was a normal opening. Only three times in the past 30 years have we not been open on Thanksgiving.'**

— Laurie Engster

runs. It opened Nov. 28, two months earlier than last year.

"Last year was unusual," said Willamette Pass spokesman Dick Bonebrake. "It's great to be open."

On Friday morning, Willamette Pass could boast a 19-inch base with four inches of new snow. Bonebrake said heavy snowstorms were expected for the next week.

The resort has been trying to bring a new snow machine online but has been stymied so far. Most of the equipment is installed, but the Waldo Wilderness Council has opposed an application for a pipeline from Odell Lake. As of now, Willamette Pass could use well water, but capacity is limited.

Willamette Pass is the closest ski area to Eugene, just 69 miles down Highway 58. Lift tickets are \$18 for adults from 9

Christmas.

Located 86 miles from Eugene, Hoodoo is easy to get to. Just take Highway 126 to Highway 20 and the top of the Santiam pass.

Lift tickets are the cheapest around; just \$17 for adults 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., \$13 for children 6-12. Kids under 6 and seniors over 65 ski for free.

When night skiing opens, the cost will be \$12 for adults, \$10 for children. Psychotics who wish to ski from 9 a.m. until 10 p.m. can do so for \$22. A mid-day pass (1 to 10 p.m.) is also available; \$17 for adults, \$13 for children.

Season passes are \$325 for individuals, \$525 per couple and \$650 for a family of three. Each additional family member pass will cost \$75 more. Student passes are available for \$225.

## Picture Perfect.

When You Want...

- Quality Photos.
- Fast Service.
- Low Prices.

Bring Your Film To  
The UO Bookstore!

3x5	12 EXPOSURE	ONLY 2.89
3x5	15 EXPOSURE	ONLY 3.59
3x5	24 EXPOSURE	ONLY 4.79
3x5	PRINT FROM SLIDE	ONLY 49¢

### REPRINTS

3x5	REPRINT	ONLY 25¢
4x6	REPRINT	ONLY 39¢

### ENLARGEMENTS (FROM SLIDE OR NEG.)

5x7	ENLARGEMENT	ONLY 1.29
8x10	ENLARGEMENT	ONLY 2.99

IF YOU FIND A LOWER PRICE  
ANYWHERE IN LANE COUNTY  
WE'LL MATCH IT!

(coupon or proof of price required)

13TH & Kincaid M-F / 30-6:00 SAT 10:00-6:00 346-4331



**PIZZA PETE'S ITALIAN KITCHEN**

ALL YOU CAN EAT!  
**SPAGHETTI SPECIAL**  
WITH GARLIC BREAD

**\$2.95** Tuesday only  
12 p.m. to 10 p.m.

2673 Willamette • 484-0996  
Next to the Black Forest Tavern  
Free Delivery

**OPEN**

**24 HOURS**

**Kinko's**

Copies • Binding • Laser Design  
• Gourmet Espresso • Coffee

**860 E. 13th**      **344-7894**