

Pulse Editor:
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Pulse Relax



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Compatibility with boyfriend preempts Mom's opinion of him

Dear Nat: I'm in a really devastating situation. My mother can't stand my boyfriend, whom I'm pretty serious about and have been dating for two years. There are certain aspects of his personality that bother her, which I don't understand because he is so likable to everyone else. She tells me we should not stay together permanently because her dislike for him will cause awkwardness in future family gatherings. Should my mother's opinion matter if I think this is really love?

—Poor Daughter in Love

Dear Poor Daughter: Every girl envisions a perfect Norman Rockwell family situation when she brings home the love of her life for the first time. She hopes they can all sit down to a formal dinner, her parents will find him sweet and charming, and time will eventually lead her into a joyous family wedding and warm family get-togethers around the Christmas tree. In reality, things just don't always work out that way. The mate a daughter chooses is her own pick, and the guy may not be a perfect match for her mom and pop. That's why so many horror-scenario movies have been made about in-laws! If your honey fits you like a glove, then I see your mate criteria as being completely fulfilled. You will be the one spending time with this man for as long as you choose, not your mother. So erase the image of your mom's angry face from your mind whenever your boy is around and enjoy the moment. Sure, it would be nice for your mother and your boyfriend to become buddies, but creating that friendship is out of your control. You've already done all you can to make the relationship wonderful. You can try to tweak the situation by informing your mother of all the sweet things your boyfriend does for you and by steering clear of telling her his annoying habits. Tell your sweetie to be on his best, most polite, humble behavior while around your mother, and she just may be won over. If this partnership ever blossoms into marriage, I have a feeling your mother will set aside her incompatibilities with your guy and appreciate him because she knows how much you do. If she remains stubborn, have your future celebration and get-together fantasies include close friends and other family members, and don't feel blue about it. Your mother's choice to be uninvolved would be her loss, not yours.

Dear Nat: I've heard that smoking pot affects your memory. I've been smoking pot since I got to college two years ago, but I have always been a good student. Now I'm wondering if I'll have no memory of college when I graduate — that is if I don't eventually fail every test I take! Can you help me out?

—Brilliant Stoner

Dear Stoner: According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, daily use of marijuana will impair your memory, attention span and learning ability, and smoking large amounts of marijuana for years will inhibit brain functions. But I'll let you be the judge. Here's a test to try: Are you reading this article while jogging, while lying in bed or can you barely even see these words because you're about to pass out? If your answer is either of the two latter, I think it is time to dispose of your bong and stash of hash pronto.

Contact the columnist at natashachilingerian@dailyemerald.com. Her views do not necessarily represent those of the Emerald. Send questions to advice@dailyemerald.com.



Natasha Chilingerian
Ask Nat

There's no business like snow business

Skiers and snowboarders can find ideal snow drifts and mild weather at Mount Bachelor during the spring

Ryan Bornheimer
Senior Pulse Reporter

Oregon is a well-known hotbed of winter sport action. Now that spring has officially arrived, adrenaline junkies may turn their attention to other interests. But true slope enthusiasts know that spring may be the most ideal time of year to hit the mountains. This year, Mount Bachelor might be a little busier than other spots, thanks to its recent placement on SkiSnowboard.net's list of the nation's top 10 locales for spring skiing and snowboarding.

Located in the Bend, Redmond, Sisters and Sunriver area of central Oregon, Mount Bachelor is one of the most well-established ski resorts in the country. Spring weather offers perhaps the best opportunity to experience the incredible views and varying activities Bachelor has to offer.

Mount Bachelor, an extinct volcano, placed No. 2 on the list compiled by the contributors to SkiSnowboard.net and the Ski America and Canada Guidebook. The selection was nestled between Mammoth Mountain and Lake Tahoe, both in California, but the full list included destinations from Colorado to Vermont.

For many skiers and snowboarders, spring is an ideal time to hit the slopes — a time when goggles are traded in for sunglasses, temperatures are often mild and skiers don't have to huddle around the fireplace at the lodge between runs.

In fact, SkiSnowboard.net contends

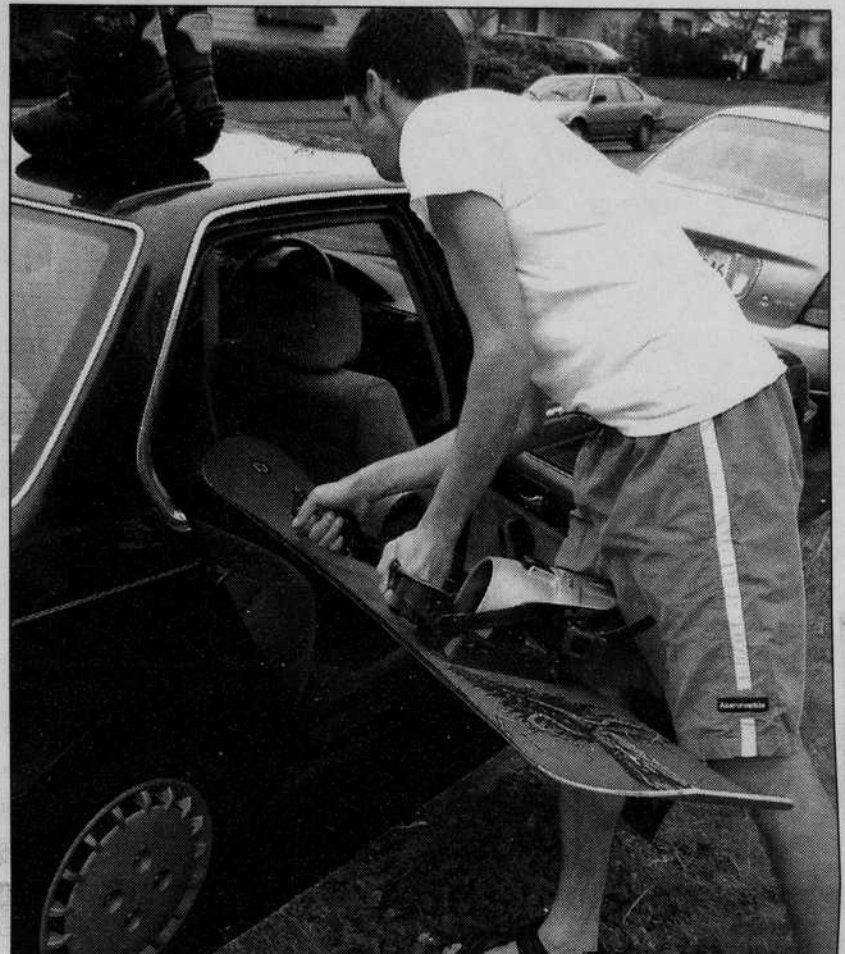


Photo Illustration by Jeremy Forrest Emerald

SkiSnowboard.net recently placed Oregon's 9,065-foot Mount Bachelor on its top-10 list for spring skiing and snowboarding.

that Mount Bachelor is better for spring skiing than mid-winter skiing. This time of year, the entire mountain is almost always open, compared to the winter when the 9,065-foot summit can be closed much of the season be-

cause of high winds.

Mount Bachelor communications manager Chris Johnston says the mild weather creates an ideal snow environment.

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Local music label gains notoriety



Alex Toevs for the Emerald

Spirit Cole, manager of Leisure King Productions, Inc., and President Scott McLean are two of three employees at the Eugene label, which has signed three artists.

Leisure King Records may not be successful in the business world, but good records have helped establish its name

Aaron Shakra
Pulse Reporter

Eugene is a city just big enough for some places to remain long unnoticed by most people's radars. Leisure King Records is one of these locations. Hidden in an office building across the street from the post office Downtown, the label and its recording artists are slowly gaining recognition.

The label was founded in 2001 by President Scott McLean. McLean spent three years drumming in the band "Los Mex Pistols del Norte." He said he got tired of touring but wanted to remain in the music business, so he started a record label.

"I had the time, and we had the cash at the moment to start it up, so we did," McLean said. "We went into it with the idea of having fun and making good records."

Leisure King Records has two other employees. McLean's wife, Annabelle Garcia McLean, serves as vice president, and Spirit Cole is the manager. Cole managed "Los Mex Pistols del Norte" until McLean asked her to join the company. She previously taught at Oregon State University after receiving her master's degree there. She said she was getting tired of it, so she turned to rock 'n' roll.

"I utilize a lot of my teaching skills in dealing with rock 'n' roll musicians," Cole said. "It's kind of like wrangling young people around."

Leisure King currently has three artists signed to its roster: Dan Jones, Tom Heintl and The Visible Men, who were the first to join the label. The Visible Men keyboardist and vocalist Dustin Lanker also plays with The Cherry Poppin' Daddies with bandmate and bassist Dan Schmid. The Visible Men, which formed in fall 1999, recorded their first album, "In Socks

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