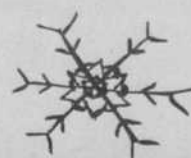


Outdoor News



Seven Summits Snowboard Quest



Once upon a time, Stephen Koch dreamed of snowboarding on the highest peaks of each of the world's seven continents... now that dream has finally become a reality. It took him much longer than he thought; equipment failures, funding shortages, and a near fatal avalanche accident turned his original three or four year proposal into a ten year campaign. Last summer Stephen successfully boarded on the last of the peaks; the daunting Mount Everest. For his final peak he chose Everest's steepest route- Hornbein Couloir, an avalanche chute that drops 10,000 feet straight down the center of the North Face! Stephen's story is an inspiration to us all- Outside Magazine says his presentation is "an unforgettable experience". Join the OP on Tuesday, February 1st as we welcome Stephen and his compelling story (see our Event Calendar p.4 for details).

Stephen Koch's Seven Summits Snowboard Quest

January 1993, Aconcagua, South America

April 1995, Elbrus, Europe

June 1996, Denali, North America

February 1997, Kilimanjaro, Africa

December 1999, Vinson Massif, Antarctica

April 2001, Carstensz Pyramid, Australia

September 2003, Mount Everest, Asia

Hoodoo Mountain Resort Offers Free Lift Ticket Program for OP Initiators

The wonderful folks at Hoodoo have generously offered to extend free passes to OP Trip Initiators on OP Trips with 6 or more people! Trips must be approved by OP staff who will send approval to Hoodoo staff. This is a great opportunity and trip initiators will be vying for these passes, so post trips early!

OP Photography Contest

This spring, the Outdoor Program will host its second annual University of Oregon Outdoor Photography Competition. Entries will be accepted from February 20th until April 18th. Drop by the OP office, EMU room 37, and pick up an official entry form.

The contest is open to all non-professional photographers and prizes will be awarded in five categories. The categories are: Flora and Fauna, Landscapes, People in the Outdoors, Outdoor Action and Adventure, and Digitally Altered Photos. One outstanding photograph will also be selected for the Grand Prize, and several Special Mentions will be chosen from among the entries. All entries

must be submitted in digital form, although the original photograph may have been shot on film, slide or with a digital camera. If you need help getting your slides or prints scanned, stop by the OP office for assistance.



Waldo Lake Alert



The OP initiates many trips every year to Waldo Lake. It is definitely one of our state's most outstanding natural wonders. Waldo Lake is one of the largest lakes in Oregon and the deepest, second only to Crater Lake. It is also one of the purist lakes in the world with very little biological activity. Anyone who has gazed into the intensely clear blue water from the surface of the lake, or the nearby trail, knows that Waldo Lake is unique. The water is so clear that you can see down to a depth of over 130 feet! However, motorized recreation on the lake has been steadily increasing and the purity and serenity of the lake is threatened by pollution and contaminants from motorized boating.

There is something you can do to protect this amazing lake! In 1999, the US Forest Service started a process to examine the recreation management of Waldo Lake. The Waldo Lake Management Plan looks at recreational impacts on and around the lake, including the use of motorized boats. There are 5 proposed alternatives in the Environmental Assessment (EA), including an option for no action; the other alternatives include various restriction levels on the use of motors on and around the lake. The most restrictive alternative would ban all motors on the lake year-round, with exceptions for search and rescue and other necessary services. The least restrictive alternative would only ban 2-cycle motors (the most polluting and noisy motors) year-round.

We hope the Forest Service will help preserve one of the purest lakes in the world by limiting motorized boating on this pristine water body. Currently, we are waiting for the Environmental Assessment (EA) to be written. After the EA is published, there will be a public comment period and we encourage everyone to write letters to the Forest Service to let them know that you support restricting gas motor use on Waldo Lake.

The Forest Service is planning on having the EA done by mid-January 2005 and we will provide contact information as soon as it is finished. If you would like to receive notice of when the comment period begins, join the OP event e-mail list and we will send out an update.

City of Eugene & REI Eugene Events

The City of Eugene and REI are offering a plethora of clinics and outings this winter- many in cooperation with the OP (see Winter Events calendar p.4). Below you'll find just a few of the events we thought you'd like.

City of Eugene, River House, 682-5329

Telemark Fest, Jan 8th and 9th, Hoodoo Mountain Resort
Alpine Adventures, assist disabled skiers, Jan-Mar, Hoodoo Resort
Family Winter-Fest X-C and Snowshoe fun, Feb 26, \$10
Wilderness First Responder, March 18-29, \$525
Wilderness First Responder Recertification, April 1-3, \$200

REI Eugene, Jenika, 465-1800

Nordic Adventures with Bill Sullivan, Jan 20, 7pm, REI
WinterFest, Jan 22, 10am, Gold Lake SnoPark
GPS 101, Jan 27, 7pm, REI
Backpacking 102-Light and Fast, Feb 17, 7pm, REI
Map and Compass 101/Feb 24

