



TIM BOBOSKY | PHOTOGRAPHER

Sunghun Kim, left, and twin brothers Jaekang Koh, center, and Jaekun Koh were among the first to arrive Jan. 1 to catch a 7:15 a.m. bus to Willamette Pass from the Ullr Sport shop at 207 Coburg Rd..

Regional RESORTS

BY NATASHA CHILINGERIAN
SENIOR PULSE REPORTER

While winter in Oregon means downpours of rain and gray skies, it also means snow on the mountains. Winter term weekends — especially the weekend of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, from Jan. 15-17 — are the perfect times for escaping to a nearby ski resort for hours of thrilling winter sports. Four of Oregon's ski resorts, all located close enough to Eugene for a day or weekend trip, have characteristics that will appeal to students who are looking to hit the snow.

Hoodoo Mountain Resort, located on the Santiam Pass summit 83 miles from Eugene via Highway 126, has the right price for lift tickets. For just \$16, skiers can practice their sport from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., even on peak days in January and February. Hoodoo also has a park for tubing and offers lessons at their SnowSports School.

Seventy miles east of Eugene on Highway 58 is Willamette Pass. This destination offers a shuttle that departs from Ullr Sport Shop (which the resort owns) on Coburg Road every morning at 7:15 a.m., so skiers who don't want to drive can still get to the slopes. Willamette Pass offers cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, tubing, and group and one-on-one lessons. Guests can explore the two nearby lakes — Crescent and Waldo — after a day of sport. In addition, Ullr Sport Shop employee Ben Marriott said Willamette Pass has a chairlift that is unique to Oregon.

"It's the first mountain (in Oregon) that has a fixed-person high speed chairlift, which is a ski lift that holds up to six people," he said. "It helps you get up to the mountain quicker."

Willamette Pass' ski passes cost \$35 for a full day and \$20 for an evening, beginning at 4 p.m.

A variety of winter activities, from skiing to snowshoeing, can be found in the mountains just outside Eugene

The shuttle is available for \$14 per person.

A bit farther from Eugene is Oregon's largest ski spot, Mt. Bachelor, which is two and a half hours away via Highway 20 and State Highway 26. Aside from skiing, Mt. Bachelor caters to snowboarding, tubing, sled dog riding, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

Ski lift passes this season range from \$49 for a full day on the resort's peak days (Jan. 15-17 and Feb. 19-21) to \$40 for skiing from noon to 4 p.m. on a non-peak day.

Mt. Bachelor's season is going well this year thanks to plentiful snow; they currently have about 30 inches on the ground. Communications Manager Chris Johnston said that other Northwest ski resorts do not have the best snow right now, giving Bachelor a leg up on its competition.

"Other places around the

RESORTS, page 12

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