



Niche on the Hood

INDIVIDUALS SHARE THEIR PASSION FOR POWDER

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As the snow piles onto Mt. Hood in excess, skiers, snowboarders and even a rowdy handful of sledders pack up their snow gear and make their way to the land where the slopes rise.

Mt Hood offers three different ski parks: Timberline, Mt. Hood Meadows and Skibowl. Timberline sits the highest with an elevation of 6,000 feet. Meadows holds a comfortable second place with an elevation of 4,523 feet and Skibowl trails in last with an elevation of 3,600 feet.

Despite being lowest in elevation of the trio, Skibowl is one of the oldest ski resorts in the country, having been established in 1928. Dozens of renovations and ski lift innovations have been made in that 91-year span, allowing it to operate with ease in 2019. Skibowl also boasts the largest night skiing area in America with a 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. lift run time and 34 well-lit runs spanning throughout the entirety of the park's 960 acres. The park provides 69 runs total and awaits approximately 25 feet of snowfall every year.

Mt. Hood is one of Oregon's largest tourist attractions, though it's also suitable for locals being only an hour outside of Portland.

Trevor Thompson, a student at Clackamas Community College, relishes the moments he can escape to the clouds.

"The essence of skiing is getting out and being rowdy out on the Clackamas Print

mountain," Thompson said. "Having a few beers and getting loose with your friends."

CCC student Kenny Jess attributes his love for fresh snow to the feeling of being free.

"The nature of snowboarding is feeling like you're flying in one of the most naturally beautiful places in the world," Jess said. "If you're

"Snowboarding is feeling like you're flying in one of the most naturally beautiful places ..."

- Kenny Jess

riding park I'd say it's more about riding and progressing with awesome people."

Jess's park of choice is Conways Park up at timberline due to the ever changing lay out of the parks rails and jumps.

"The park crew is always being creative and putting rails together creatively and making it a fun place to ride," said Jess.

Skibowl is also well known for terrain suited for all ages and skill

levels, and the park hosts rail jams where riders can showcase their tricks on rails. Conor and Colton Carroll are Skibowl employees responsible for maintaining, customizing and riding the terrain parks. The brothers are also sponsored snowboarders with a large following on social media and

hundreds of videos exhibiting their proficiency and outlandish style, not just in snowboarding but skating and surfing as well.

The pair can often be found filming one another in the terrain park, busting out trick after trick in what seems like an endless arsenal.

Conor Carroll films sibling Colton Carroll shredding the terrain.

photos by Lexis Shull

