

Missing Mt. Bachelor snowboarder rescued

by Cheryl McDermott

BEND, Ore. — A 24-year old Glide resident snowboarding at Mt. Bachelor was found cold, tired and wet but in otherwise good condition almost six hours after he was reported missing by friends, the sheriff's office reported.

According to a news release prepared by Deschutes County Sheriff's Cpl. Neil Mackey, ski patrol personnel searched the Mt. Bachelor property unsuccessfully after Caulder Loni's friends reported him missing about 1 p.m. on Tuesday. They eventually found and followed tracks in the snow headed west toward Sparks Lake, and estimated they were at least two hours behind Loni.

Deschutes County Search and Rescue (SAR) team members were activated and dispatched on snowmobile to the Sparks Lake area while ski patrol continued to follow the tracks in the snow, Mackey said.

About 6:45 p.m. and past dark, ski patrol found Loni south of the Sparks Lake boat ramp. Mackey said few -- if any -- trails, none of which are groomed or maintained during the winter, exist in the area, which has an elevation of about 5,400 feet.

Loni walked to the boat ramp accompanied by ski patrol personnel, and was given a ride back to Mt. Bachelor by SAR members, the corporal said.

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