

Mt. Hood climbers rescued

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

The Clackamas County Sheriff's office reported this afternoon that the three climbers, missing since Sunday when they tumbled over a ledge on Mt. Hood, have been safely rescued from the mountain.

One of the climbers, a woman, was transported to Oregon Health Sciences University Hospital in Portland for treatment of a head injury she suffered during a fall near Illumination Saddle on Sunday shortly before noon. The injured climber, whose name is being withheld until family members have been contacted, was able to walk off the mountain with her rescuers and a complete recovery is expected.

The other two climbers were identified as 34-year old school teachers Matty Bryant of Milwaukie, and Kate Hanlon of Wilsonville. Both Bryant and Hanlon are reported to be in good physical condition, and have joined the remaining members of the eight-person climbing party at Timberline Lodge. The other five climbers were rescued yesterday afternoon.

According to the sheriff's office, it was discovered that contrary to earlier reports of a 100- to 150-foot fall, the climbers actually tumbled 400- to 500-feet over the ledge.

Rescuers found the missing trio about noon today, and warmed them with hot liquids and dry clothing before their removal from the mountain.

Thirty rescue personnel in six climbing teams were deployed early this morning in an effort to find the missing hikers. Search and rescue team members from the National Guard 304 "Pj"s, Mountain Wave Radio Communications, Craig Rats, Hood River County Sheriff's Office, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office, Eugene Mountain Rescue, and Douglas County personnel all participated in the effort.

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