



# UNION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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**Boyd Rasmussen, Sheriff**

## PRESS RELEASE

March 1, 2010

Searchers located the body of 13 year old Nathan Cain in a remote area of Union County at 11:40 a.m. on Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup>.

He had been on a family cross country ski trip in the Andes Prairie area on Saturday and was reported missing that afternoon. A search was commenced immediately and continued non-stop that night, all day Sunday and Sunday night and into Monday, according to Union County Sheriff Boyd Rasmussen. At its height the incident involved 80 searchers on snowshoes, skis, snowmobiles and vehicles. Assisting were Search and Rescue units from Baker and Umatilla Counties, aircraft from the Oregon National Guard and Oregon State Police and communication resources from the La Grande Rural Fire Department.

The cause of death had not been confirmed though Union County Sheriff's Office Captain Craig Ward stated that there are no signs of foul play and noted that back country travel has inherent risks, more so in winter. Temperatures during the night dropped into the teens. Ward said the victim's body was located 1.78 miles from the point last seen, in a small, steep gully, heavily wooded and well off any trail. "There are very strong indications that Nathan succumbed to hypothermia on Saturday night", Ward said.