

Body of missing student found

OGDEN - Family members with search dogs found the body of Weber State student David Eberhard at the top of Strong Canyon in the foothills above 36th Street.

The 19-year-old Farmington man had been missing since Feb. 28. Weber Sheriff spokesman Sgt. Klint Anderson said there were no indications of the cause of death yet, nor any signs of foul play at the scene.

Sheriff's deputies this morning were laboring to bring the body down to a command center set up at 36th Street and Skyline Drive. Eberhard's backpack was found at the bottom on the same canyon March 21.

- Standard-Examiner staff

Foul Play? Police Use Dogs to Search For Missing Student

BY GREG BURTON

THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

At noon on Feb. 28, David Eberhard hoisted his backpack around his winter coat and began the daily trek to class at Weber State University. Or so his friends thought.

The 19-year-old Farmington student casually had left his dorm room at Promontory Tower, alarming no one.

"He was preparing for class, finals were coming up," says his mother, Julie Eberhard. "Everybody said he was happy, hyper and excited."



David Eberhard

Three weeks later, her son is missing and investigators are stumped.

"There hasn't been any money used, his bank account hasn't had any activity and he hasn't used his credit cards," said Weber State police Officer Jared Olson. "And there's no evidence of foul play."

Investigators stepped up efforts to locate Eberhard during the weekend, augmenting a series of air searches and dispatching a team of human-scent trained dogs in the foothills east of the campus. The search area is bordered by the Ogden and Weber rivers, just south of Pineview Reservoir.

Olson said dogs were hampered by a 20-foot cover of snow, although the animals registered several "scent hits" in the scrubby canyons.

"It's the only clue we have — scents along some fields," said Julie Eberhard. "It is not a sure thing."

Her son has a history of depression, but he has never disappeared before, she said. David did not own a car, his bicycle is still locked up at Weber State and he has not booked an airline flight.

"He did frequent UTA, but bus stations just don't keep a good record," said Weber State police Sgt. Dane LeBlanc. "It really has us baffled."

David left no notes and did not show up for a party he had planned with friends at his Farmington home. Julie Eberhard called police Feb. 28, the day after the party was supposed to have taken place.

This week, David Eberhard is missing final exams, tests his friends say the computer science student appeared ready to tackle.

"Everybody gets stressed out before finals," said Olson. "That isn't much of a clue."

Eberhard is 6 feet 1 inch tall, 160 pounds with brown hair, blue eyes and braces on his teeth. He sometimes wears glasses. Anyone with information on the disappearance is asked to call Olson or LeBlanc at 626-6460.