



[Home](#) > [News](#) > [Features](#) > [Calendar](#) > [Sports](#) > [Obituaries](#) > [Crime](#) > [Births](#) > [Weddings](#) > [Education](#) > [Opinion](#)
[Classifieds](#) > [Submissions](#) > [Subscriptions](#) > [Subscriber Services](#) > [Community Links](#) > [About](#)

YHS student named visitors bureau intern

By [Jenna Nielsen](#)

(Updated Wednesday, August 2, 2006, 1:25 PM)

Yosemite High School senior Cody Madsen has been chosen as this year's information intern at the Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau in Oakhurst.

This is the second year for the internship program where eight college students are selected to work in the park and one high school level student is chosen to work at the visitors bureau.

The summer internship is funded annually by the Yosemite Association and donations from employees at Morgan Stanley investment bank in New York.

Interns work with the public while learning about Yosemite and its gateway communities.

Interns also receive a \$2,000 scholarship that can be put toward their education.

Madsen, 17, said he found out about the internship program from Kathy Dimont, chief of education for Yosemite National Park.

"She was my ride to a boy's camp in Calvin Crest this February and she was telling me all about it," Madsen said. "That's when I decided to apply."

Dimont said she chose Madsen for a number of reasons but the main thing was his personability and that he was outgoing.

"We always want someone who is outgoing so they aren't afraid to talk to strangers," Dimont said. "Cody is very smart, interested and is able to speak with people."

Madsen began his internship with a five-day training program in Yosemite. He stayed in Wawona for the week with other college students who would be starting their summer internships in the park.

"I was a little nervous," Madsen said. "I knew I would be spending a week in Yosemite with a bunch of college students and for a local I really didn't know that much."

He said over the course of the week, he learned a lot about the area including information about bears, plant life and different places the rangers work throughout the park.

"I got to meet all kinds of really great people with the park service and the DNC (Delaware North Companies)," Madsen said.

Madsen works at the visitors bureau from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

He helps visitors who come in and provides them with any information they need about the park or the area.

"I get to interact with people from all around the world — I basically give them information they need to get to park so they know where they are going," Madsen said. "For example, we have been getting a lot of people in from Europe and they don't know how big the park really is."

Madsen said on a busy day the YSVB gets anywhere from 250 to 300 visitors a day. On a typical slow day, he said they get about 150 visitors.

Once he graduates from YHS, Madsen hopes to attend the University of California, Santa Barbara. He wants to study international relations and law.

"My dream job would be to work for a firm with the United Nations," Madsen said. "I would really like to do something in international law."

For now though, Madsen is keeping busy with his internship and preparation for his senior year



YSVB summer intern Cody Madsen helps Daniel Matene, who was visiting from New Zealand with his wife Delwyn, plan their trip through Yosemite National Park for the day.

Photo by Jenna Nielsen

CURRENT WEATHER

[Click here for five-day forecast for Oakhurst, CA](#)



Mostly sunny
90F
Powered by
AccuWeather.com

COLUMNISTS

[Paul Henry Abram](#)

[Ronna Adler](#)

[Judith Allender](#)

[Dr. Bill Atwood](#)

[Dwight Barnes](#)

[Daniel Blodgett MD](#)

[Cathie Campbell](#)

[G O Degilio](#)

[Tom Elias](#)

[Jim Flanagan](#)

[Grace Grady-Barnes](#)

[Bryan Greeson](#)

[Mike Hackworth](#)

[Kristen Hoverman](#)

[Al Joyal](#)

[Tony Krizan](#)

[Ed Lyons](#)

[Jenna Nielsen](#)

[David Richards](#)

[Earlene Ward](#)

ADVERTISEMENTS



that will be filled with advanced classes.

He is working toward receiving an international baccalaureate, a program that requires him to take a certain amount of advanced classes and complete 175 hours of community service.

"I really want to do it because I would feel like I was cheating myself if I didn't," Madsen said. "I also really like the challenge."

The Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau is located on Highway 41, just north of Oakhurst. The center serves both visitors and local residents providing information and a free area visitor's guide.

Guidebooks, maps and postcards are also available for sale.

A large resource library is also available to plan adventures in the region as well as trips outside the area.

For more information, you can call (559) 683-4636 or visit the YSVB's Web site at www.yosemitethisyear.com.



Published every
Wednesday!

Eating Out?

See what our area restaurants have to offer.

Download Mountain Menus!

Place an ad

Get your business
noticed on The Sierra
Star online

KidScoop every
Wednesday
in the
Sierra Star



TV Listings
in every
Friday
Edition



What's going
on in town?
Check out our
Calendar Section



Plus Much,
Much More!
SUBSCRIBE
NOW!

[Home](#) > [News](#) > [Features](#) > [Calendar](#) > [Sports](#) > [Obituaries](#) > [Crime](#) > [Births](#) > [Weddings](#) > [Education](#) > [Opinion](#)
[Classifieds](#) > [Submissions](#) > [Subscriptions](#) > [Subscriber Services](#) > [Community Links](#) > [About](#)

The Sierra Star

49165 Crane Valley Rd [426] | PO Box 305 | Oakhurst, CA 93644-8621
Phone (559) 683-4464 | Fax (559) 683-8102

Copyright © 2006 The Sierra Star