

GOERTZEN:
Suit seeks \$1.25 million in damages

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employees of the district. Goertzen had twice been named Coach of the Year by the league before his contract was not renewed.

A lawsuit against parents Merry Ann Moore and Rob Corrigan was dismissed in August of 2014, with the defendants awarded \$24,061 in attorney's fees. Goertzen sought in 2015 to have that ruling vacated (overturned), citing emails from Moore to Hosang discovered after the dismissal.

Deschutes County Circuit Court Judge Beth Bagley denied the motion to vacate.

Goertzen's suit, filed by his attorney Marlin Ard in U.S. District Court in Eugene on February 25, 2019, asserts that, "at the time the motion to vacate ... was denied by J Bagley, she was personal friends with defendant Moore. J Bagley and Moore had exchanged email addresses and had also communicated with each other through social media (Linkedin). (Note: parentheses in original.) J Bagley failed to disclose this relationship and failed to recuse herself..."

The suit also alleges that Bagley "contacted counsel of Moore, Carl Rodrigues, and instructed him to file a motion for sanctions against Ard because he had, on behalf of his client, brought an action against J Bagley's friend Moore."

The suit argues that Bagley then "unlawfully" imposed sanctions for "false certifications" in the motion to vacate.

The federal lawsuit names as defendants Judge Bagley, Deschutes County Circuit Court and Deschutes County, asserting that "defendants actions violated plaintiff's rights to due process and equal protection under the law as guaranteed by the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution..." The suit seeks \$1.25 million in damages for emotional pain and suffering and other non-economic losses.

Bagley's staff at Deschutes County Circuit Court referred a request for comment from *The Nugget* to Bagley's Department of Justice attorney Justin Kidd. DOJ spokesperson Kristina Edmunson told *The Nugget* that, as a matter of policy, there would be no comment on pending litigation.

Merry Ann Moore told *The Nugget* that due to legal constraints from previous legal matters involving Goertzen, she is unable to comment.

HERNANDEZ: Self-taught kicker to go to Willamette University

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and watched YouTube and worked at it all summer," he said.

Hernandez is self-taught in the kicker position and worked at the end of the football season with a coach from Texas to hone his skills. Hernandez kicked over 200 balls over the summer. He played all season with the Sisters Outlaws as their kicker.

"My mom always told me that everything happens for a reason and I took this as not letting anything define what I can and cannot do — and what I wanted to do was be on the team, so I worked for it," he said.

For Sisters Athletic Director Gary Thorson, Hernandez is remarkable for his character as much as for his on-field accomplishments.

"Wyatt is as good as they get when it comes to modeling character," he said in a Student of the Month tribute to Hernandez. "He has been a role model for so many of us here at SHS, both as a student and an athlete as well. During his time here, he has shown us how to be a great teammate, a servant to others, model student, and how

to handle adversity. At all times doing so with a positive spirit, full of energy, and a great sense of humor. The Sisters community is blessed to have this young man in it."

Hernandez was scouted by Willamette University and attended their recruiting weekend — and fell in love with the school. Hernandez originally wanted to attend OSU, until Willamette spoke with him and showed interest.

"Willamette got in touch with me and said they were interested. I thought they had a great culture of a school and team environment," he said.

Hernandez will start as prospective kicker for the Willamette U football team beginning his freshman year. He looks forward to continuing to play the game he loves, even if it's just for the year if he doesn't decide to continue forward with it in college.

"I am so excited to play with the team that I met during recruitment," he said.

Hernandez overcame the adversity of a severe injury — thanks to the support of his family, friends and coaches. "I am grateful to my friends, family and Coach (Neil) Fendall, and for my team for believing in me even when I didn't," he said.

Hernandez' triumph proves, according to him, that "with good work ethic, you can set your mind to anything you want to do."



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Wyatt Hernandez puts one between the uprights for the Outlaws.

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