

SCOREBOARD

LOCAL SCHEDULE

Saturday COLLEGE TRACK AND FIELD

EOU Team Challenge, La Grande, 11 a.m.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL Eastern Oregon at British Columbia (2), Vancouver, BC, 11 a.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE WRESTLING

Eastern Oregon at NAIA Invitational, Jamestown, North Dakota, all day

PREP BASEBALL

La Grande vs. TBD, Bill Betts Invite, Fruitland, Idaho, TBD

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings Eastern Conference Atlantic Division table with columns W, L, Pct, GB

Baseball scores: Brooklyn New York 36 34 514 13 1/2

Baseball scores: Miami 32 35 478 —, Orlando 32 38 457 1 1/2

Baseball scores: Houston 42 26 618 —, San Antonio 39 29 574 3

Baseball scores: Denver 45 22 672 —, Portland 41 26 612 4

Baseball scores: Golden State 46 21 687 —, L.A. Clippers 39 30 565 8

Baseball scores: Oklahoma City 108, Brooklyn 96, Washington 100, Orlando 90

Baseball scores: Winnipeg 70 41 25 4 86 241 210, Nashville 72 40 27 5 85 215 193

Baseball scores: Philadelphia 43 25 632 5 1/2, Boston 42 27 609 7

Hockey scores: Milwaukee at Miami, 5 p.m., Phoenix at Houston, 5 p.m.

HOCKEY

NHL Standings

NHL Standings Eastern Conference Atlantic Division table with columns GP, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA

NHL Standings Western Conference Central Division table with columns GP, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA

NHL Standings Western Conference Pacific Division table with columns GP, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA

Baseball scores: San Jose 71 43 20 8 94 256 218, Calgary 70 43 20 7 93 250 203

Baseball scores: Pittsburgh 5, Buffalo 0, N.Y. Islanders 2, Montreal 1

Baseball scores: Toronto FC 1, D.C. United 0, Montreal 1

Baseball scores: Seattle 1, 0, 0, 3, 4, 1, Minnesota United 1, 0, 0, 3, 2, 1

Baseball scores: Seattle 1, 0, 0, 3, 4, 1, Minnesota United 1, 0, 0, 3, 2, 1

Baseball scores: Seattle 1, 0, 0, 3, 4, 1, Minnesota United 1, 0, 0, 3, 2, 1

Baseball scores: Seattle 1, 0, 0, 3, 4, 1, Minnesota United 1, 0, 0, 3, 2, 1

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Baseball scores: Seattle 1, 0, 0, 3, 4, 1, Minnesota United 1, 0, 0, 3, 2, 1

Baseball scores: Buffalo at Carolina, 4 p.m., Chicago at Montreal, 4 p.m.

SOCCER

Major League Soccer

Major League Soccer Eastern Conference table with columns W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA

Major League Soccer Western Conference table with columns W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA

Major League Soccer Eastern Conference table with columns W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA

Major League Soccer Western Conference table with columns W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA

Major League Soccer Eastern Conference table with columns W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA

Major League Soccer Western Conference table with columns W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA

Major League Soccer Eastern Conference table with columns W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA

Major League Soccer Western Conference table with columns W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA

Baseball scores: Colorado 0 0 1 1 3 3, Real Salt Lake 0 0 1 1 1 1

LOCAL STANDINGS

College Softball

College Softball Cascade Collegiate Conference table with columns Team, CCC, All

ENTERPRISE

Continued from Page 8A

School board, superintendent intervene

There were multiple Enterprise School Board executive sessions — Wells believes as many as six — involving Even's eligibility in the weeks after Wells denied his hardship request.

The school board meeting minutes from Dec. 3, obtained by The Observer from the school district through a records request, included executive session notes on the discussion of a letter to be sent to Even regarding the handling of his eligibility.

According to the letter, which was obtained by The Observer from Wells, Even addressed the board on Nov. 15 regarding his eligibility request. In the letter, which was sent to Even in early December, the board was critical of both Wells and Principal Carlsen in their handling of Even's request.

"The Board acknowledges that the Athletic Director and Principal did not handle the request in either a timely manner nor with good personal communication to you," the letter stated. Later in the letter, the board wrote, "We as a Board felt your situation could have and should have been handled better by all parties from the beginning."

The AD was not originally included in the dissemination of the letter written to Even and his family, though the superintendent, principal and the student's grandfather were. Wells only recently was able to access the entire document after it was presented as evidence in the appeal to OSAA and he obtained a copy of OSAA's final ruling on the case.

School Board Chair Kate Fent deferred comments on the matter to Pinkerton.

Pinkerton said, based on the advice of legal counsel, she could not answer questions about specific students or staff members at Enterprise. When asked about the letter directly, her response was "I can't go there." She was also unable to address several questions from The Observer based on "confidentiality laws and protections," she said in an email to the newspaper.

She did tell The Observer, however, she can put forward a hardship request for a student if requested by the board. She also told The Observer the AD and Principal were consulted in her review of Even's request.

Wells disputes this.

"I never had input. They never asked for my notes," Wells said, stating only The Observer had inquired of him about his notes or of the District Athletic Committee and its processes.

Principal Carlsen, in a Dec. 14 response letter to the school board The Observer obtained from Wells, also said there hadn't been consultation with him or Wells. Carlsen wrote, "Neither the Athletic Director or the Principal were interviewed by the board regarding the questions and accusations presented by Mr. Even."

He also wrote that he and Wells had not at the time been told how they failed to "handle the request in a timely manner..." and was concerned "that a full investigation of the matter was not presented to the board before a final determination was made for Mr. Even."

"I've got five school board members and a superintendent who never asked me how this works," Wells said. "It's not uncommon for a superintendent, in theory, to put forward a DAC request. It is, however, very rare that a superintendent would put forward a request without the support of the principal or AD."

Wells, in his original review of the hardship request, didn't believe the case had enough merit.

Superintendent Pinkerton sent the hardship request to the DAC in late January 2019 once Even had regained his academic eligibility, according to the OSAA's conclusion letter, which Wells shared with The Observer. The DAC sided with Wells' previous assessment and voted down the request 3-0 on Feb. 13, upholding Even's ineligibility. OSAA also denied the appeal, with its ruling coming down, also 3-0, on Feb. 26.

Because it was his school that put forward the request, Wells was unable to vote on the case when it reached the DAC, but he did review it.

The DAC's summary said in part, there was a "lack of proper documentation," a "lack of supporting documentation in regards to claimed crowding at Jordan High School and Renaissance High School," and "that questionable and inconsistent statements exist that are not supported by typical documentation."

The OSAA's conclusion letter stated in part that Even's move to California and back "was a conscious choice within the control of the student and student's parents and that enforcement of the (mid-year trans-

fer) rule would not work an undue hardship on him."

Why?

Wells said he is still unclear why the decision was made to review the case a second time, though he has a couple of opinions, including a perception that he and Principal Carlsen are biased against Even.

"I think there was this assumption we don't like Justus," Wells said. "Liking or not liking doesn't have (anything) to do with the decision to not put (the hardship request) to the DAC."

He also wondered why the effort was made to redeem a student's athletic status when the student had missed 14-1/2 days of school in an 18 school-day stretch.

"I think they got caught up in the emotion of the case. They bought what was given to them by one party in the case, which is discouraging to me," Wells said.

Why then, did Wells resign? "I figured it was the only way I was going to be heard," he said.

He claimed a quote attributed to him in a neighboring newspaper story on the case took his words out of context. The paper quoted Wells as saying, "I'd like to know why this particular kid is so important."

"It wasn't that he (Even) wasn't important," he said, noting the quote gave that appearance.

"I couldn't figure out why this case was so important with this athlete when the case was so clear." ■

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Grande Ronde Hospital proudly welcomes: Edward Frink, MD. Joining the Grande Ronde Hospital and Clinics team as an Anesthesiologist. Anesthesiologist Edward Frink, MD, joins the GRH team from the Central Oregon area. Dr. Frink is a graduate of the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine and is board certified by the American Board of Anesthesiology. Please join us in welcoming Dr. Frink to the Grande Ronde Valley! Learn more about Dr. Frink in our online Provider Directory at www.grh.org today!