

ENTERPRISE TRACK AND FIELD



Ronald Bond/Wallowa County Chieftain

Enterprise's Jericho Peters, left, takes off after receiving the baton from his brother, Ransom Peters, during the 4x100 relay at the 2A state track meet in Union on Saturday, May 22, 2021. Running together in the state track meet was one of the highlights of the season for Jericho, a senior, and Ransom, a freshman.

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

Enterprise brothers enjoy lone track season together

By **RONALD BOND**
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — They had an opportunity to run together during the 2A state track meet in Union. The younger brother even handed the baton to the elder during the 4x100-meter relay that day.

One would think that would be the icing on the cake in a track season — especially in a pandemic-riddled year.

Yet that wasn't the highlight of the 2021 track season for Enterprise's Peters brothers — senior Jericho and freshman Ransom.

Rather, the top moment for both was when each set a personal best in the same heat in a race in Milton-Free-water in May — the 100-meter dash.

Jericho ran a time of 11.24 seconds — one that topped his dad's fam-

ily-best time of 11.3 in the event — and Ransom turned in a time of 11.72. Jericho won the race that day, with Ransom placing fourth.

"Having that competition to drive us both was a lot of fun, and definitely the highlight for me," Jericho said.

"I was so happy," Ransom added. "I never imagined I could run an 11 my freshman year."

That's not to say the race at state May 22 in Union wasn't memorable.

The duo ran the first two legs to help Enterprise place fourth in the race that day. It was part of an effort that led to the Outlaws taking third overall in the state meet.

"For me it was really great," Jericho said. "I have always enjoyed being able to compete with Ransom. We did it in football this year. I've always pic-

tured Ransom handing the baton off to me. Being able to do that at state was something very special to me. I'll never forget it."

The brothers each started competing in track in seventh grade and are part of a track-running family. Their father, Justin, older sister, Hero, and younger sister, Mercy, all are runners. And their mom, Kara, while not a trackster, played basketball and softball.

"We've definitely got some athletic blood in our family history," Jericho said.

The older brother, who is a three-sport athlete, tried track after realizing the speed he had on the football field.

He quickly learned sprints would be his forte, and having that knowledge

See, **Brothers**/Page 8A

Pac-12 aims to strengthen wrestling

Mid-Valley Media

SAN FRANCISCO — The Pac-12 Conference announced Thursday, June 3, a series of measures to strengthen and grow the sport of wrestling in the conference, including an initiative to add members to its wrestling ranks beyond the current membership of six programs for the first time in more than a decade.

With the recent reinstatement of the Stanford program, the Pac-12 is committed to building upon the foundation of success earned this past season, which included an individual NCAA champion, a fourth-place team finish at the NCAA championships and eight All-American honors.

The decision to seek additional wrestling members represents a significant commitment to both bolster competitive opportunities and success for Pac-12 wrestling student-athletes, and strengthen collegiate wrestling on the West Coast.

To support the growth of Pac-12 wrestling, the conference recently adjusted some of its wrestling policies, including the following:

- The conference eliminated a restriction that capped the number of wrestling affiliates to the minimum number needed to keep NCAA AQ status.

- The conference approved a policy change that will allow affiliate members to host the conference championships in future years.

- The conference approved the hiring of an officials assigner for conference matches and the conference championships, starting with the 2021-22 academic year.

- The conference will establish a wrestling schedule rotation so as to evenly balance home and away matches during the conference season.

It is the hope of the conference and its wrestling members that this effort will not only lead to more wrestling affiliates but will also help create additional interest

See, **Wrestling**/Page 8A

SPORTS BRIEFING

Former OSU receiver back on College Football Hall of Fame ballot for 2022

CORVALLIS — Former Oregon State wide receiver Mike Hass earned a spot on the 2022 College Football Hall of Fame ballot, it was announced last week.

Hass was also on the 2020 ballot but didn't receive enough votes to be inducted.

Hass, who played for the Beavers from 2002-05, started his career as a walk-on, mostly playing special teams as a freshman. But he broke out in his sophomore season, snagging 44 receptions for more

than 1,000 yards and racking up seven touchdowns.

His success only increased in his final two seasons at Oregon State. As a junior, he nearly doubled his reception total from the prior season with 86 catches. He hauled in seven more touchdowns while accumulating 1,379 yards.

In Hass' senior season, he recorded 90 receptions for 1,532 yards and scored six touchdowns on his way to winning the Bilet-nikoff Award as college football's most outstanding receiver. Hass was also named as a first-team All-American by ESPN and participated in the East-West Shrine

Game, an event for top players across the country.

Hass finished his time at Oregon State ranking third in career receiving yards with 3,924. He also became the first Oregon State receiver to record three 1,000-yard seasons in a row.

Hass was drafted by the New Orleans Saints in the 6th round of the 2006 NFL draft but appeared in only two games.

But now, Hass has another chance at being selected into the College Football Hall of Fame to recognize his heralded career. The induction class will be announced in "early 2022,"

according to a release.

EOU hosting youth skills camp

LA GRANDE — The Eastern Oregon University men's basketball program will be hosting its first summer camp of 2021.

The Mountaineers' youth skills camp is set for June 16-18 and is open to students in first through eighth grade. The camp will run from 9 a.m. until noon inside Quinn Coliseum. The three-day camp will feature players from the Mountaineer men's squad and focus on fundamentals, skill

development and competitions.

On the last day of camp there will be a full-court game that parents may attend.

Cost to register for the camp is \$75 per player. All students who participate in the camp must wear a mask while inside the gym. In order to attend the camp, students must fill out the Eastern Oregon University consent form. The form can be filled out prior to arriving at the camp or on the day of.

For more information or any questions, contact Head Coach Chris Kemp at ckemp@eou.edu or 480-861-5118.

— The Observer

SPORTS SHORT

Kidd removes himself from consideration for Trail Blazers job

By **AARON FENTRESS**
The Oregonian

PORTLAND — Los Angeles Lakers assistant coach Jason Kidd has removed his name from consideration for the vacant head coaching position with the Portland Trail Blazers, according to a report from ESPN's Adrian Wojnarowski.

"Portland's a first-class organization and will have great candidates ... but I've decided not to be one of them," Kidd said, according to Wojnarowski.

A report from Yahoo Sports on Friday, June 4, said Blazers star Damian Lillard identified Kidd as someone he would want to see replace Terry Stotts.

Stotts and the franchise mutually agreed to part ways after nine seasons.

Kidd, a hall of fame point guard and former 10-time All-Star, has solid head-coaching experience with stints at Brooklyn and Milwaukee (183-190 combined record) but also a sordid past.

Kidd pleaded guilty to domestic violence in 2001 following an incident in which he slapped his ex-wife during an argument. His ex-wife, during 2007 divorce proceedings, alleged numerous counts of abuse. Kidd, who filed for divorce, claimed he was abused in the relationship.

Four other candidates have emerged as potential replacements for Stotts: Juwan Howard, Chauncey Billups, Jeff Van Gundy and Mike D'Antoni.



Kevin C. Cox/Associated Press, File

Los Angeles' LeBron James (23) talks with Jason Kidd during Game 4 of the Lakers' first-round playoff series against Portland on Monday, Aug. 24, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Florida.