

BLIZZARD: Won't get above freezing in Boston for a week

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other statement as to what our event means not only to runners but also to Americans," said Tom Grill, executive director of the Boston Athletic Association, which oversees the marathon.

Meteorologists had warned that Boston would get more than 2 feet of snow by Tuesday night, and the National Weather Service said the city ended up with 24.4 inches, the sixth-highest total on record. Other areas received around 2 to 3 feet, pretty much as predicted.

"They actually got it right," James Hansen said as he cleared a Boston sidewalk.

There was no gloating among the forecasters, who just seemed relieved they were on the money.

Pointing up the guesswork factor, the weather team at Boston's WHDH-TV tweeted a photo of the office snow pool, with pre-storm predictions ranging from 22 to 25.5 inches.

As the storm gathered earlier in the week, forecasters had warned that Philadelphia, New York and New Jersey could get 1 to 2 feet of snow. But in the end, they didn't even see a foot.

With snow removal in Boston well underway, commuters high-stepped their way through a warren of snowy paths and towering snowbanks that gave the capital an almost alpine feel.

Still, bitter cold threatened to complicate efforts to clear clogged streets and restore power. Forecasters warned that it won't get above freezing in Boston for a week, and several more inches of snow are expect-

ed Friday and again over the weekend.

Boston is accustomed to big snowstorms, and with ample warning that a blizzard was coming officials mobilized thousands of snowplows and called up the National Guard.

Early on, Gov. Charlie Baker, who has been in office just three weeks, made a key decision, ordering a driving ban to give crews a chance to clear the mounting snow off roadways. Baker said he wrestled with that but it "worked pretty much as we hoped."

"We've come out of this in relatively good shape," he said Wednesday before visiting the hard-hit South Shore area, where the storm breached a seawall and caused flooding.

In Marshfield, officials said at least four homes likely will be condemned and at least a dozen more sustained substantial damage after two 80-foot sections of seawall were smashed.

Local fisherman Tim Mannix was trying to move furniture to secure a sliding door at his home when the ocean struck.

"A wave hit at that moment, and bang! Like lightning it hit me right in the face," he said, his nose showing the damage from the encounter: six fractures, which required numerous stitches. "It was so fast I couldn't believe it, and down I went."

He said the water came in from the back of his house, knocked down his back deck, washed through the house and destroyed his front deck.

"The house is wrecked," he said, "75 percent wrecked."

BRIEFLY

Montana oil spill cleanup to slow as river gets dangerous

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — The struggle to recover 30,000 gallons of oil from a pipeline spill into Montana's Yellowstone River is expected to grind to a near-halt in coming days as warmer weather makes ice on the river increasingly dangerous, state regulators and a company spokesman said Wednesday.

Because of brittle ice, crews trying to recover oil trapped beneath the Yellowstone could be pulled off the river as early as Thursday, said Bonnie Lovelace with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality.

Monitoring of the river would continue, and any oil that washes up along the riverbank still could be cleaned up, said Bill Salvin, spokesman for pipeline owner Bridger Pipeline LLC of Wyoming.

The monitoring area includes a 90-mile stretch of the river between the spill site south of Glendive to just across the North Dakota border.

Roughly 1,200 gallons of oil have been recovered from the river so far, Salvin

said. The 12-inch pipeline broke Jan. 17 after a section of the line became exposed beneath the river for undetermined reasons.

Measles outbreak with Disney origins grows to 95 cases

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A measles outbreak whose spread originated at Disneyland has grown to 95 cases.

The California Department of Public Health told the *Los Angeles Times* on Wednesday that 79 of those in infections are in California and 52 of them can be linked directly to Disney Parks.

The rest are in Michigan, Arizona, Utah, Washington, Colorado, Oregon, Nebraska and Mexico.

The new overall figure shows eight more cases confirmed this week.

Measles has been spreading since an outbreak last month. Most of those infected were not vaccinated officials have urged people to get the measles shot.

The U.S. experienced a record number of measles cases last year, with 644 infections from 27 states despite being largely eliminated in 2000.

GRADUATION: None of Hawthorne's 11 American Indian students graduated

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"The best situation is when we establish a relationship right when they come in, in seventh grade, and then revisit that relationship each year," Grant said. "We've had real good success closing some of the communication gaps we had."

Closing that communication gap, he said, keeps students from playing their teachers and parents off of each other or falling through the cracks.

Principal Matt Combe said the school district has provided the resources for Heppner to provide plenty of interventions if a student begins to fall behind.

Students who aren't on track to graduate have a four-hour block of time on Fridays to work with teachers. The school also calls parents and asks them to bring their child to school early or informs them that they will be spending less time at football practice until they get their grades up.

Combe said a smaller

school like Heppner has an advantage because students get so much one-on-one attention.

"The kids that don't graduate, a lot of time there are outside factors," he said.

Umatilla County

Hermiston School District, Umatilla County's largest district, posted a district-wide graduation rate of 68 percent, down from 70 in 2013. Hermiston High School posted a much higher graduation rate of 85 percent, but only eight of the district's 81 alternative school students graduated in four years.

Pendleton School District declined from the previous year, was about one percent lower than the state's 72 percent mark and several points lower than the previous year, when the district graduated 75 percent of its seniors.

The high school itself boasted a robust 86 percent graduation rate, and underserved ethnicities and races — an area of focus for the district in recent years — graduated at an 80 percent

clip, more than 15 points higher than Oregon as a whole.

But the rest of the district's high schoolers didn't fare as well, especially American Indian students, one of the district's largest minority groups.

Hawthorne Alternative High School graduated just 10 percent of its 39-student senior class. Of that class, none of Hawthorne's 11 American Indian students graduated or completed their high school diploma. And no male students or students from underserved ethnicities graduated from there either.

In comparison, Pendleton High School graduated 79 percent of its 14 American Indian seniors.

Nixyaawii Community Charter School performed better than Hawthorne, but still only graduated half of its 12-student class, which is entirely comprised of American Indians.

Pilot Rock posted an impressive 96 percent graduation rate and Echo, which graduated 76 percent of its

seniors the year before, graduated 95 percent. Umatilla School District was slightly below the state average this year at 67 percent, but it did improve from the previous year, when only 61 percent of the class of 2013 graduated on time with a regular diploma.

Stanfield School District saw a drop in graduation rates from 87 percent in 2013 to 79 percent in 2014 but still received praise from state schools superintendent Rob Saxton for beating the state average, and for its unusually high graduation rate for Hispanic students. Eighty-four percent of the district's 22 Hispanic students graduated, a full 19 points above the state average.

"There is remarkable work going on in districts across our state from Woodburn to Stanfield," Saxton said in a news release. "Districts offering multiple pathways for student success are pulling their students through high school and allowing them to imagine what they are capable of as an adult."

HANSELL: 'No matter what you do, you'll be attacked by somebody'

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dictatorship to democracy. He said "the hit came totally out of the blue."

Nye said he had gotten a call before the meeting from Kropf, who said "we are not trying to undo Bill — we're just trying to get his attention."

Hansell, who answered Kropf in a recent *East Oregonian* op-ed, said, "I would say to Jeff, 'Why don't you stop in my office and talk to me?'"

Topics during the long evening meeting drifted to water and transportation, two subjects on Hansell's mind. He said the legislature is on the brink of allowing the removal of more water from the Columbia River for Northeast Oregon agriculture.

"The hundreds of millions of dollars that will produce — it is mind boggling,"

Hansell said. "My predecessors have had this as a priority for years. It's my turn to carry the ball."

Possible transportation projects in District 29 include an upgrade of Ott Road in Hermiston to give better access to the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center from Highway 395 and upgrading of the Tum-a-Lum Bridge on the Walla Walla River in Umatilla County.

Hansell may have the chance to serve on a Ways and Means transportation task force. He is considering the opportunity to make sure Eastern Oregon is at the table, but he is unsure how District 29 would respond if the overall package includes such things as a user tax for electric and hybrid vehicles that in recommendations. If he fought against new taxes but the task force recommended them anyway, someone like Kropf could still ac-

cuse him of supporting new taxes.

Eli Stephens, Pendleton Tea Party Chairman, urged Hansell to be a voice for Eastern Oregon on the transportation task force, but to stand against any new taxes.

"Be that shining star so you'll be our hero instead of our zero," Stephens said.

"No matter what you do, you'll be attacked by somebody," said an unidentified man in the crowd.

Hansell said that finding ways to work with Democrats is a must these days because the Senate consists of 18 Democrats and 12 Republicans.

"We are in a super-minority," Hansell said. "That's part of the reality." The discussion flowed from topic to topic, from Obamacare to the forests.

Granelia Thompson, of Weston, summed it up to applause.

"I want my freedom back," Thompson said. "I don't want regulations up the ying-yang telling me and my husband how to farm. I want lower cost of government and less regulation."

Roy Woodward, of Milton-Freewater, got more applause when he told Hansell, "I'd like to see a legislative session where no new bills were passed ... just rip out the old ones."

Hansell listened closely, promising to consider everything he had heard. Had Jeff Kropf been sitting in one of the chairs listening, he likely would have been disappointed in the lack of backlash in the wake of his ad. Local right-wingers seemed intent on supporting their senator — as long as he continues to listen.

Contact Kathy Aney at kaney@eastoregonian.com or call 541-966-0810



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INTERPATH LABORATORY - PENDLETON, OR 2014 COMMERCIAL RECYCLER OF THE YEAR



Each year the employees of Pendleton Sanitary Service, Inc. (PSSI) nominate several commercial businesses or institutions for the Commercial Recycler of the Year award. The winning recipient is determined by a vote of PSSI employees, as they are the individuals who deal directly with the recycled materials, and are impacted by the quality of those materials. This award is given to a commercial recycler that does an outstanding job in recycling, and/or has made significant improvements to their recycling efforts over the past year.

The employees of Pendleton Sanitary Service voted unanimously to choose Interpath Laboratory (Interpath) as Pendleton's Commercial Recycler of the Year for 2014.

In February 2014, Interpath approached PSSI about how to reduce waste, reuse, and recycle more items. Through a cooperative effort, they built a plan under Interpath Laboratory's internal process improvement program called "Interpath Quality" or IQ. This effort was lead by Mitchell Hernandez of Interpath. According to Interpath, the IQ program:

"Is a program that all employees are encouraged to participate in through department level projects that improve the quality and services of our organization. Typically each IQ project has a "lead" and orchestrates the activity of the team to analyze how improvements can be made based on the expertise of our employees, implementation of the solution, and then validation of our efforts by continuing to measure the outcome(s). This project that Mitch led is the outcome of an IQ project that touched all of our employees and their willingness to buy-in to reducing the waste that was being sent to the landfill from our campus. This recognition from Pendleton Sanitary Service is reflective of the quality employees here at Interpath Laboratory and their service to our organization and community."

The cooperative effort is ongoing, looking for additional ways to recycle more items, and further reduce waste.

During 2014, Interpath recycled approximately 53 tons of cardboard, 8 tons of office paper, and 2.3 tons of plastic bottles through PSSI. Not only does Interpath do an outstanding job of recycling with the significant volume of recycled materials they produce, the quality control in their recycling effort is extraordinary, which makes a significant impact on reducing waste going to the landfill.

Pendleton Sanitary Service would like to congratulate and thank Interpath Laboratory for their outstanding efforts in recycling!



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