

EAST OREGONIAN

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How I spent my spring break

Poet, rapper look to inspire

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

Players at the annual Basketball Against Alcohol and Drugs Tournament on the Umatilla Indian Reservation talked about more than hoops Tuesday.

Every team, win, lose or draw, participated in motivational workshops at the Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center.

Presenters Frank Waln, 25, and Tanaya Winder, 29, led group after group to talk about what they hope to achieve in life. Waln is an award-winning rap artist in Chicago and Winder is a writer, spoken-word poet and director of the Upward Bound Program at University of Colorado at Boulder. She also is Waln's manager. They both earned Gates Millennium Scholarships in high school. They both are American Indian and grew up on reservations. They presented Monday, Tuesday and



Adilia Hart, 12, of Mission talks about three aspirations she wrote down on a piece of paper with musician and motivational speaker Frank Waln of Chicago during a workshop at the Basketball Against Alcohol and Drugs Tournament on Tuesday in Mission.

Wednesday before departing Oregon.

Waln is Sicangu Lakota, and said his mother raised him on the poverty-stricken Rosebud Indian Reservation on the southern border of South Dakota. Sober all his life, he said peers pressured him to drink or get high but he resisted. If he had followed them, he said he would not be who he is today.

"No one ever did anything like this on my rez when I was growing up, and I wish they did," Waln said. "No one my whole life asked me what I want to do. Which was music."

But he said he kept that under wraps in high school because no one encouraged him. So instead he did what others told him — get off the

See BAAD/8A

Film camp has Pendleton kids reeling

Local children learn the skills behind movie magic at arts center

By ANTONIO SIERRA
East Oregonian

The sound of the slap could be heard clear across the room.

While one camp attendee was doubled over from the force of it, giggles and smiles erupted from both the assailant and victim, with more slaps repeated.

The behavior was not only acceptable but encouraged of the attendees at the Lights! Camera! Action! Film Camp at Pendleton Center for the Arts. The violence between children wasn't real. Instead it was a part of a stunt workshop at the two-day camp, which also included activities on filming, sound, set design and many other aspects of film making for children ages 8-12.

Earlier in the class, Jessica Moran and Austin Larsen, members of the Blue Mountain Community College Community Theatre, instructed the campers on the art of fake fighting.

Through the teachings of Moran and Larsen, the children were able to faithfully recreate slaps, gut punches and hair pulls without anyone getting hurt.

See FILM/8A

HERMISTON Teens put on notice

Misuse of park equipment could get troublemakers trespassed

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

Hermiston police have a new tool for dealing with troublemakers at city parks after the city council passed an ordinance allowing police to trespass people for up to 30 days for using equipment "in any manner other than its intended use or design."

City Manager Byron Smith said the school district, police department and parks and recreation department had worked together to create the ordinance to combat complaints about teenagers at parks, particularly a group of students who have been causing problems at McKenzie Park on a regular basis.

The ordinance gives officers a tool to ask the students to move on if they aren't technically breaking the law but are causing a disruption and potential damage to city property by doing things like riding their bicycles and skateboards on top of the picnic tables.

"At the officer's discretion they could be trespassed from the park for up to 30 days to discourage the bad behavior," Smith said.

Hermiston Police Department Chief Jason Edmiston said because the ordinance leaves so much up to the officers' discretion, there will be a supervisor overseeing the decisions. And misusing park equipment doesn't automatically mean a 30-day suspension from the park. It could mean a warning or being kicked out for the next couple of days.

"Our intent is not to increase citations; our intent is to stop the behavior," he said.

Edmiston said he believed the ordinance was a better, more fair solution than suggestions he had heard to ban all students from McKenzie Park or put bars on the cook shack where the teens often sit on the counters.

Councilman Doug Primmer said he didn't see the need to declare an emergency that would put the ordinance into effect immediately instead of in 30 days.

See PARKS/8A



Caleb Picken fake slaps Art Hill during a stunt fighting class at this week's Lights! Camera! Action! Film Camp at the Pendleton Center for the Arts.

Staff photo by Kathy Aney

\$7.255 billion school fund bill clears first hurdle

By PETER WONG
Capital Bureau

SALEM — A state school fund of \$7.255 billion, slightly more than was originally proposed by the Legislature's chief budget writers, has cleared its first hurdle.

The joint budget subcommittee on education approved the school fund, which is the largest single item in the budget that comes from the tax-supported general fund and lottery proceeds.

But it did so Tuesday with all five Democrats for it and all three Republicans against it.

The amount is about \$250 million less than what some advocates, including administrators and teachers, say is needed.

"I think it would be foolhardy to ignore our education partners," Rep. John Huffman, R-The Dalles, said. "All of our school districts know how to budget."

But Sen. Arnie Roblan, D-Coos Bay, said a Republican alternative for a total of \$8 billion cuts too much from other programs and is not realistic.

More money per pupil

Under the plan, local schools will see the following per pupil increases in the 2015-16 budget (2016-17 in parenthesis):

- Lone \$7,646 (\$7,761)
- Pendleton \$7,431 (\$7,548)
- Milton-Freewater \$7,339 (\$7,456)
- Athena-Weston 7,348 (\$7,466)
- Ukiah \$7,345 (\$7,463)
- Pilot Rock \$7,318 (\$7,435)
- Umatilla \$7,240 (\$7,355)
- Stanfield \$7,201 (\$7,315)
- Morrow \$7,149 (\$7,264)
- Echo \$7,125 (\$7,238)
- Hermiston \$7,088 (\$7,202)
- Helix \$7,037 (\$7,150)

"We have to be responsible for an entire budget that includes a lot of different things," Roblan, a retired principal of Marshfield High School, said. The substitute was rejected.

Democratic legislative leaders say their plan is to

get a vote of the full budget committee on Thursday, and then votes of the House and Senate next week.

The most recent early legislative approval of a state school fund was in 2011, when it fell on April 13.

Schools rely on the fund for the lion's share of their operating costs, ever since voters limited local property taxes in the 1990s.

The amounts include property taxes as distributed by a funding formula, but not federal grants.

The fund is up about \$20 million from the framework proposed Jan. 14 by Sen. Richard Devlin of Tualatin and Rep. Peter Buckley of Ashland, Democrats who lead the joint budget committee.

It does include \$220 million for state funding of full-day kindergarten, which takes effect statewide this fall.

It is also \$600 million more than state aid in the current budget cycle ending June 30 — and the 2013-15 amount was \$1 billion more than in 2011-13 during the economic downturn.

See SCHOOL/8A



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