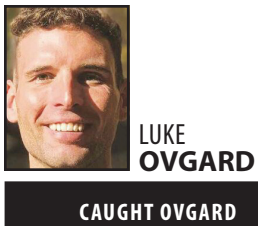


'Born 30' and looking back



LUKE OVGARD

CAUGHT OVGARD

My mom always told me I was born 30.

If that's true, my hair-line is doing remarkably well for a 61-year-old, but perhaps it explains why I get up to pee so often during the night. Hmm ... not important.

Actually important is one of my family's favorite home videos. The clearly dated scene shows Young Luke sitting in front of the bolster, arranging something on its surface out of view of the camera. Into frame walks my younger brother, Jake. Without delay, Jake begins scattering the assortment of papers I was apparently "playing" with. Jake was maybe two or three at the time, and as I realize what he's doing, I begin to voice my displeasure with a whiny timbre that I mostly aged out of. Seconds later, I can be heard complaining to my mom "He messed up my business papers!" Dad keeps the camera on Jake for what, in retrospect, is the comedic climax. Jake turns and stares at the camera with a devious half smile.

Business papers. SMH. I have no recollection of what I was playing, but I do know that not much changed as I grew older.

My first job that gave me an actual paycheck was refereeing soccer, which Jake and I did together. I brought in about \$500 over

the course of the season, which might as well have been \$50,000. At 12 years old, there were any number of things I could've bought after that 2002 soccer season. My friends likely would've bought clothes, one of the newfangled iPods, video games, a new ball or bat or helmet or loads of snacks and treats. I don't know what Jake bought. I do remember what I bought, though. It's more what you'd expect from a suburban mom than a seventh grader; I spent my money on a Food-Saver vacuum packer. It cost me about half of my first paycheck. Yeah, that's

Young Luke wasn't talking to the parents at said party. But honestly, as I've aged, I realize Young Luke missed out on his childhood in many ways because he was never really a kid.

Risk

Today, I live a rich life punctuated by new experiences. Travel, fishing, dining out, cooking, reading and dating regularly but unsuccessfully all serve as testaments to my love of the untamed and untested. I'm not alone in this, either.

Millennials aren't the first generation to chase new experiences with

ence on the regular. I don't think I ever would've wistfully doubted the paths I took in life or felt a sense of loss for this experience or that if I'd never known it existed. I'm not saying ignorance is bliss and something to aspire to, but we were given so much unfiltered information so quickly that I think it's left those like me, who were born 30, in this weird introspective rut that the average person might not have until they are much, much older.

Honestly, the internet has been far more boon than bane, and we now have the collective of human knowledge and experience at our fingertips, but that's what makes it so overwhelming. The internet has the potential to be a panacea for all problems and difficulties it doesn't itself create, but it also has the ability to leave us listless and overwhelmed.

Something I wish I could've told Young Luke so many years ago is that you don't need to always make the most prudent, well-reasoned choice to be successful and happy. Sometimes, action beats calculation. It's OK to spend your money and time on something that isn't wholly practical. Who knows? Maybe someday you'll even have a platform to write about that frivolity.

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TODAY, I LIVE A RICH LIFE PUNCTUATED BY NEW EXPERIENCES.

what kind of kid I was. Best of all, it still works to this day, hundreds of pounds of fish and nearly 20 years later.

Like that FoodSaver, I quickly learned that I had the rare ability to suck the air out of a room at 13-going-on-30. I always had a good sense of humor, but if I wasn't a killjoy full-time, I at least moonlighted.

Young Luke was responsible. Young Luke was mature. Young Luke could be counted on to handle the fundraising for class endeavors, to always have tissues or allergy medicine or Tylenol close at hand, to reassure parents of the lack of criminal activity or general delinquency at any party where he was present — that is, if

almost religious fervor, but they certainly are the first to share those experiences so ubiquitously. Everywhere you look is another video series or podcast or social media influencer sharing his or her passion with the world. It's awesome for those who love to consume this content, but it's also a bit dangerous. My generation grew up at a time when the world changed faster and more radically in 20 years than at any other time in history, and it has shaped us into a unique subculture.

Among other things, this rapid immersion into the global and the digital left many desensitized to the value of the very experiences we record and curate for a virtual audi-

Insko:

Continued from Page B1

stress this would put on her family.

"There was always this sense that he truly cared," Lund said.

To illustrate this point, Lund recalled that once she received a phone call from an administrator at Eastern which sparked an enraged response.

"It lit my fuse," Lund said. "I was so angry that I slammed down my phone."

Insko, whose office was next to Lund's, then asked who she had been talking to. When he realized who it was, he urged Lund to leave immediately.

"Get out of here, go home," Insko said.

Insko did not ask about what sparked Lund's outburst, all he cared about was seeing to it that Lund was out of the office before the individual she had been talking to came and gave her a tongue lashing.

"He wanted to protect me," Lund said.

Insko, a member of EOU's athletic hall of fame, came to Eastern in 1968 after serving as the coach of Springfield High School's football team. Jack Redling, who later played for Insko at Eastern, was one of his players at Springfield High. Redling was a sophomore at Springfield when Insko took over its football program in 1965. Insko inherited a downtrodden program and did not win a game his first season. Two years later, however, Springfield won its district title and advanced to the state playoffs. Springfield lost to eventual state champion Grants Pass in its first round playoff game in 1967 by just seven points.

"He (Insko) was a god in Springfield while he was football coach," Redling said at a banquet conducted in honor



Eastern Oregon University/ Contributed Photo

Lee Insko patrols the Eastern Oregon University sideline in 1971. Insko, who died Nov. 16, 2021, at the age of 86, was the head coach of the university's football program 1968-77.

of Insko in 2013 at Eastern. Redling, then a Salem resident, according to a story in a October 2013 edition of The Observer, like many of the Springfield players who had recently graduated, wished he had come a lot earlier so they could have played for him.

Insko stepped down from coaching in 1982, Lund said, so that he and his wife, Beth, could have time to attend the high school games of their daughters, Lori and Lisa, and sons, Tom and Matt.

Tom Insko, now the president of EOU, once asked his father if he ever had second thoughts about stepping away from coaching so that he could attend the games of his sons and daughters.

"He told that he never regretted it for one minute. He was highly competitive but his priorities were clear. What he did speaks volumes of his love for his family. It was an easy decision for him to make. To have a father like that is very impactful," Tom Insko said.

A celebration of Insko's life will be Dec. 4 at 10 a.m. at Quinn Coliseum on the Eastern Oregon University campus, La Grande. Arrangements are by Loveland Funeral Chapel, La Grande.

ON THE SLATE

SATURDAY, NOV. 26

College men's basketball
Eastern Oregon at Menlo College, 1 p.m.

College women's basketball
Eastern Oregon vs. Rocky Mountain, Best Western Inn and Suites Classic, Caldwell, Idaho, 2 p.m.

SUNDAY NOV. 28

College men's basketball
Eastern Oregon at Menlo College, 1 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOV. 30

Prep girls basketball
Hermiston at Davis, 5:45 p.m.

Prep boys basketball
Hermiston at Davis, 7:30 p.m.

Prep girls bowling
Hanford at Hermiston, 3 p.m.

College volleyball
Eastern Oregon vs. Northwestern (Iowa) at NAIA National Tournament, 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 1

Prep girls basketball
Milwaukie at Pendleton, 5:30 p.m.
Stanfield at Irrigon, 6 p.m.
Riverside at Weston-McEwen, 6 p.m.

Prep boys basketball
Stanfield at Irrigon, 7:30 p.m.
Riverside at Weston-McEwen, 7:30 p.m.
Condon at Heppner, 7:30 p.m.

College volleyball
Eastern Oregon vs. College of Saint Mary (Nebraska) at NAIA National Tournament, 1 p.m.

THURSDAY, DEC. 2

Prep girls bowling
Hermiston at Chiawana, 3:30 p.m.

Prep girls wrestling
Hermiston at Richland, 6 p.m.

Prep boys wrestling
Hermiston at Richland, 7 p.m.

Prep girls basketball
Umatilla at La Grande, 5:30 p.m.
Griswold at Pilot Rock, 6 p.m.

Prep boys basketball

Umatilla at La Grande, 7 p.m.
Griswold at Pilot Rock, 7:30 p.m.

College volleyball
Eastern Oregon at NAIA National Tournament, TBD

Prep swimming
Pendleton at Hillsboro, 4 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 3

Prep girls basketball
Irrigon at Lone Tournament, TBD
Echo at Lions Tournament, Union, TBD
Sunnyside at Hermiston, 5:45 p.m.
McLoughlin at College Place, 6 p.m.
Nixyaawii at Riverside, 6 p.m.

Pilot Rock vs. Sherman at Sherman County Invite, 6 p.m.
Ione/Arlington vs. Damascus Christian at Ione Basketball Bonanza, 6 p.m.

Umatilla at Heppner, 6 p.m.
Imbler at Stanfield, 6 p.m.
Pendleton vs. Crescent Valley at Ridgeview Tournament, 7 p.m.

Weston-McEwen at Central Linn, 7:30 p.m.

Prep boys basketball

Irrigon at Lone Tournament, TBD
Weston-McEwen at Central Linn, 6 p.m.
Echo vs. Union at Lions Tournament, Union, 7:30 p.m.

Pendleton vs. Liberty at Wilsonville Tournament, 7 p.m.
Sunnyside at Hermiston, 7:30 p.m.
McLoughlin at College Place, 7:30 p.m.
Nixyaawii at Riverside, 7:30 p.m.
Umatilla at Heppner, 7:30 p.m.

Imbler at Stanfield, 7:30 p.m.
Pilot Rock vs. Sherman at Sherman County Invite, 7:30 p.m.
Ione/Arlington vs. Damascus Christian at Ione Basketball Bonanza, 7:30 p.m.

Prep wrestling
Heppner at Enterprise Invitational, 10 a.m.

College men's basketball
Blue Mountain vs. Highline at Spokane, 3:30 p.m.

College volleyball
Eastern Oregon at NAIA National Tournament, TBD

Peal:

Continued from Page B1

title, have qualified for the national tournament eight times, have won 10 Northwest Conference Championships, and have turned out 23 All-Americans.

Pierce likes the fact he will have one more season with Peal before he heads off to college. His versatility pays dividends at a small school like Weston-McEwen.

"He pulls his big boy pants up and says, 'If no one else is going to do it, I will,'" Pierce

said. "At this level, if you have two, three or four kids like him, you win state titles."

In the summer, Peal hones his skills playing legion ball with Hodgen Distributing in Pendleton.

Peal, who just came off a terrific season for the Tiger-Scots on the football field, where he earned first-team all-conference honors as a quarterback, is now on the basketball court, ticking off the days until baseball starts.

"I like to go out and play with my friends," Peal said of football and basketball. "It's a lot of fun."

The fun has only just begun.

Job Announcements

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION IS HIRING THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

Watershed Department, Portland, Oregon SCHISM Modeler/ Oceanographer

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission's (CRITFC) Coastal Margin Observation and Prediction (CMOP) program is seeking a full-time experienced SCHISM modeler to continue development of SCHISM models for the Columbia River Basin and the Pacific Ocean Basin. This position will work collaboratively with staff to integrate numerical hydrodynamic modeling into conservation and management programs for critical fish species and stocks. Work may include incorporating high resolution wetland modeling, water control structures, and aquatic vegetation modeling into the existing CMOP SCHISM model and continuing development of individual based modeling of juvenile salmon. **Salary: \$75,799 - \$80,854**
Closing Date: December 15, 2021

Finance and Operations Department, Portland, Oregon Accounting Technician

This position provides support to accounting and operations functions. The position will have primary duties in fleet management, document management, and general ledger account reconciliations. It also assists in the back-up of other accounting and operations functions such as front desk coordination, asset receiving and tracking, and travel coordination. The position prepares general ledger journal entries; assists in special project management; participates in internal and external audit; and works in other areas managed by the Department. **Salary: \$42,731 - \$55,546.**
Closing Date: Open Until Filled.

Staff Accountant/Accounts Payable, Portland, Oregon

This position primary function is the processing of all phases of the Accounts Payable cycle. The position provides support to accounting functions. The position also helps maintain accounts receivable; ensures weekly bank deposits, maintenance of credit card, charge account and petty cash accounts; prepares general ledger journal entries; assists in special project management; participates in internal and external audit; and works in other areas managed by the Department. **Salary: \$44,155 - \$67,946. Location: Portland, Oregon.**
Closing Date: Open Until Filled.

Fishing Site Maintenance Department, The Dalles, Oregon. Fishing Site Maintenance Worker

These positions will provide the maintenance of the 31 Tribal In-Lieu and Treaty Fishing Access Sites located along 150 miles of the Columbia River. The FSMD crews perform work that involves a variety of trade practices to maintain, repair, and improve existing public facilities. Skills include painting, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, electrical, custodial work, and maintaining sanitation standards in all facilities. Maintenance workers use hand and power tools to accomplish the work. **Salary: \$34,496 - \$36,796.**
Closing date: Open Until Filled.

Enforcement Department Hood River Office CRITPD-Police Officer

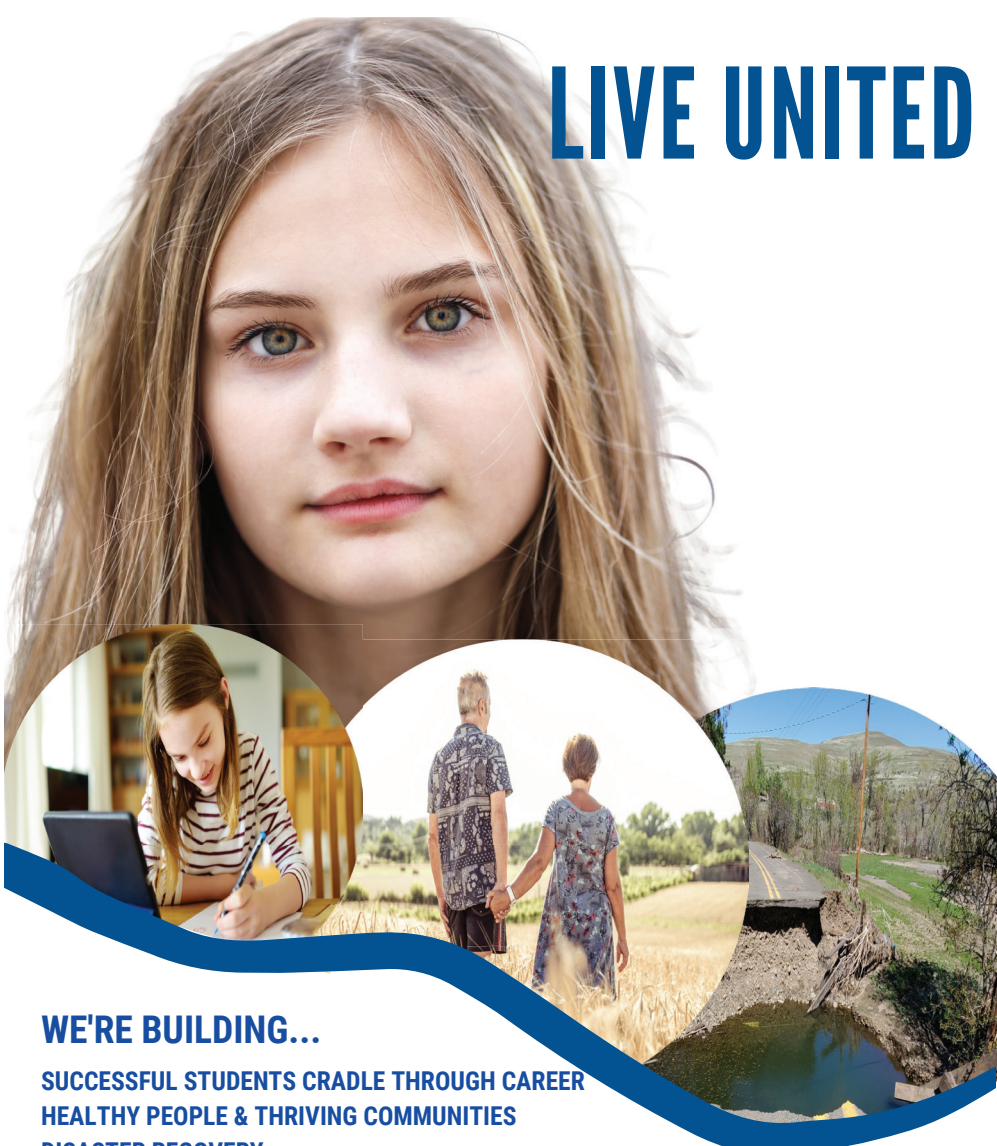
The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Police Department (CRITPD) is based in Hood River Oregon. The CRITFC Police Department provides 24-hour policing focused on the 150 mile stretch of the Columbia River from Bonneville to McNary Dams and adjacent lands by vehicle and boat. CRITPD has commissions from all four CRITFC member tribes (Yakama, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Nez Perce), the Bureau of Indian Affairs, some Washington counties, and are Oregon-certified officers. The department enforces treaty fishing regulations and criminal laws, responds to search and rescue emergencies, and provides archeological resource protection. CRITPD also provides full police services on tribal lands along the Columbia River. **Salary: \$51,516 - \$56,261.**
Closing date: Open Until Filled.

CRITPD-Dispatcher, Hood River, Oregon.

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Police dispatchers are based in Hood River, Oregon and are the communication link for all incoming communications to the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Police Department (CRITPD). Dispatchers are directly responsible for the operation of all office radio communications and telephone equipment, they monitor patrol officer activities, and answer incoming emergency calls for service, business, and assistance calls. The position works rotating shifts to support the round the clock police service provided by the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Police Department. Classification: Regular, Full-time, Non-Exempt. **Salary: \$39,937 - \$43,661. Closing date: Open Until Filled.**

All positions are permanent full-time unless otherwise noted. The complete job description, minimum skills, application requirements, deadlines, and pay information are available on the CRITFC website www.critfc.org Careers. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

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