



Steve Tool/Chieftain

Classic blues and rock group Casey Kiser and the Jakewalk Saints. From left, drummer David Salim, bass player Zion Mark and lead guitarist and vocalist Casey Kiser.

Former Jimmy Bivens lead man Kiser fronts new blues-rock band

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

Casey Kiser, the former lead guitar player for local musician Jimmy Bivens, has struck out on his own and formed a blues-rock group: Casey Kiser and the Jakewalk Saints.

Kiser, 20, formed the group with David Salim, 16, on drums and Zion Mark, 17, on jazz bass. The latter two are former attendees of the local "School of Rock," which featured Kiser as a co-instructor. Salim is a sophomore who has also played with Bivens and Mark is a junior in high school with recording engineer aspirations. Kiser is also lead singer in addition to lead guitar duties.

The group has been together for about six months. Kiser said the group's name came out of sheer panic. True to blues fashion, the name comes from Prohibition slang for imported Cuban whiskey.

"It was so potent it would paralyze you if you drank too much of it," Kiser said. "When you'd get paralyzed, it would be called the Jake walk."

The group's first formal gig came at the Lostine Tavern on New Year's Eve. "We've all played together off and on for a few years," Kiser said.

The group practices about twice a week. Practices last about two hours for covers and three to four hours for originals, of which the group has several. As an example, they played a well-put-together blues number, "Right Back," for the Chieftain.

Covers are chosen by listening to a thorough collection of 1950s and 1960s blues and blues rock. "I really like a lot of the English stuff like Cream and Derek and the Dominos," Kiser said. "Chicago stuff too, like Magic Sam (Maghett). Salim likes the same music with modernized drum beats. His favorite drummer is Garth Brooks' road drummer."

Enterprise athletic director resigns

Wells accuses administrators of unprofessionalism

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

Enterprise High School athletic director Larry Wells has resigned, citing unprofessional conduct by superintendent Erika Pinkerton and the school board.

Wells alleged in a letter to the school board that employees deliberately falsified a student's attendance records and Pinkerton deemed that student eligible to play school sports, despite the fact that Wells had determined the student was ineligible. The student had been enrolled in a California high school at the beginning of this school year. According to Wells, the student had returned to EHS on Sept. 11 and proceeded to skip 15 school days — including 10 consecutive days — further making him ineligible.

"Obviously, academics isn't important at that point," Wells said. "Your transfer can't be athletically motivated. You have to make a transfer for academic reasons."

Wells determined on Oct. 4, after he says he consulted with the Oregon Schools Activities Association, that the student was unable to participate in athletics. The OSAA told Wells he was correct, but he could submit the case to the District Athletic Committee, of which Wells is chairman, for a second look. Wells did not do so.

"The case has no merit," he said.

According to Wells, neither Pinkerton nor any school board has asked him for details about the case.

The letter states that on Monday, Oct. 8, school principal Blake Carlsen and Wells discovered that a student's attendance records had been altered. Carlsen conducted interviews of all individuals with access to student records, and each individual denied involvement.

However, Carlsen determined the culprit through a computer audit. Pinkerton was notified of the investigation, but allegedly created another position for the employee in a different part of the school. No disciplinary action was taken against the employee. According to Wells, the only reason the student's attendance records were restored to their original state is because he had taken screenshots of them.

The school board then held an executive session for the student to let him explain his side of the story. They did not ask Wells for input. The board then issued a letter to the student, noting that if he raised his grades at the alternative education school he attends, the board would allow the superintendent to submit a reinstatement request to the District Athletic Committee.

"This was never a grades question," Wells responded. "What's most frustrating is that when the school board publishes a letter to the family that Blake Carlsen and Larry Wells mishandled the case, when no one consulted me for my facts and my timeline," Wells said.

Wells says his access to attendance records was also curtailed without notification. Because of this, Wells asserts violations of school policy. He stated that access

to those records is pertinent to his job to determine eligibility.

In addition Wells claims that the school board, without due process or review of factual guidelines and timelines, issued a letter to the parents of the student that was critical of Wells' and Carlsen's actions. The school board was also unwilling or unable to supply Carlsen with details of how he or Wells violated policy of the District Athletic Committee eligibility requests as the aforementioned letter stated.

According to Wells, the 18-year-old student formally withdrew from Enterprise after starting football practice here and went to stay with non-custodial parents in California, where he enrolled in three different schools.

"All the circumstance of him leaving and returning were fully within his control as well as his custodial parents," Wells said.

Wells said that it was his opinion that the superintendent or school board didn't want to tell the student's parents that their son was ineligible. Instead, they'll let the athletic committee or ultimately the OSAA make a ruling.

"I'd like to know why this particular kid is so important," Wells said.

Enterprise School District superintendent, Erika Pinkerton, disagreed with Wells' interpretation of events.

She affirmed that she and the board decided to move forward with a hardship eligibility request to the District Athletic Committee if the student met the board's requirements.

Pinkerton stated that the school attendance alteration was done because the student was a 10-day drop and the Oregon Department of Edu-

cation requires that when the school drops a student from the rolls that the records are accurate.

"He's (Wells) under the understanding that what they (the secretaries) do was not legal, and that is not true," she said. "Nothing illegal or unethical has been conducted by an employee of my district with altering records."

The superintendent did say an audit was done and an employee identified, but because it is a personnel issue she can't discuss it. She could not discuss whether any disciplinary action was taken against the employee or whether the attendance records were "restored," for the same reason.

Furthermore, although Wells' access to the "Schoolmaster" program was curtailed, Pinkerton said that after review, she determined that Wells and another employee only needed "read only" access while the secretaries retained full access because of their duties.

"I took the time to sit down and do an audit on who had access to what," Pinkerton said. "I investigated a concern that was brought forth to me."

Pinkerton said the letter that went out to the student's parents from the school board was not taken lightly.

"There was due process through all of this," she said. "Larry (Wells) reported to Blake (Carlsen). Blake brought the information to the school board. The school board evaluated that and came to a recommendation for the student's best interests."

Additional events regarding this case have transpired, including a controversial school board meeting and the student in question attempting to practice with the basketball team since Wells submitted his resignation letter.

The Chieftain will follow up on this story in a later issue.

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- CLUES ACROSS**
1. Cabbage dish
 5. Mouse's cousin
 8. Fluster
 12. City transport
 13. Have unpaid bills
 14. Cattle
 15. Suffers
 16. Fellows
 17. Marsh stalk
 18. Raised
 19. Love
 21. _____ up to (confess)
 23. Take back
 27. Frown
 31. Express
 32. Angler's need
 33. Gall
 35. Morning condensation
 36. Spoken
 38. Most uncanny
 40. Barked
 42. Prepared
 43. Army bigwigs
 45. Jam
 49. Knitted
 52. Shad _____
 53. Enormous
 54. Hunch
 55. Addition to a house
 56. Derive
 57. Thereafter
 58. Two, to Manuel
 59. Musical twosome

- CLUES DOWN**
1. Try
 2. Lion's pad
 3. Wheel shaft
 4. Insight
 5. Love affair
 6. Thunderstruck
 7. Choir member
 8. Precede
 9. Hatchet
 10. Final letter
 11. Complete
 20. Worship
 22. Roam
 24. Royal's assistant
 25. Sorbets
 26. Certain amphibian
 27. Actress Erin _____
 28. Film part
 29. Fan favorite
 30. Sooner than, in poems
 34. Ships
 37. Cheerful
 39. Yearned
 41. Braved
 44. Aria
 46. Hawaiian feast
 47. Giant
 48. Lady's guy
 49. Take the gold medal
 50. Shelley poem
 51. Disturb

Church Directory

<p>Church of Christ</p> <p>502 W. 2nd Street • Wallowa 541-398-2509</p> <p>Worship at 11 a.m. Mid-week Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Grace Lutheran Church</p> <p>409 West Main -Enterprise</p> <p>SUNDAY WORSHIP at 9 AM 12:30 Guest Pastor Colin Brown</p> <p>phone (message): 541-426-4633 web: gracelutheranenterprise.com</p>
<p>St. Katherine's Catholic Church</p> <p>Fr. Thomas Pudupulliparamban 301 E. Garfield Enterprise</p> <p>Mass Schedule Sundays: St. Pius X, Wallowa - 8:00 am St. Katherine of Siena, Enterprise 10:30am Saturdays: St. Katherine of Siena, Enterprise 5:30am Weekday: St. Katherine of Siena, Enterprise - 8:00am (Monday - Thursday and First Friday)</p> <p><i>All are welcome</i></p>	<p>St. Patrick's Episcopal Church</p> <p>100 NE 3rd St, Enterprise NE 3rd & Main St</p> <p>541-426-3439 Worship Service Sunday 9:30am</p>
<p>Joseph United Methodist Church</p> <p>3rd & Lake St. • Joseph Pastor Cherie Dearth Phone: 541-432-3102</p> <p>Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am</p> <p>JosephUMC.org</p>	<p>Summit Church</p> <p>Gospel Centered Community Service time: 10:30 am Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise 541-426-2150</p> <p>Interim Pastor: Rich Hagenbaugh</p> <p> www.summitchurchoregon.org</p>
<p>Enterprise Christian Church</p> <p>85035 Joseph Hwy • (541) 426-3449</p> <p>Worship at 9 a.m. Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship at 6 p.m. (nursery at A.M. services)</p> <p><i>"Loving God & One Another"</i> David Bruce, Sr. - Minister</p>	<p>Christ Covenant Church</p> <p>Pastor Terry Tollefson Church Office: 541-263-0505</p> <p>Family Prayer: 9:30 AM Sunday School: 10 AM Worship Service: 11 AM</p> <p>723 College Street Lostine</p>
<p>Lostine Presbyterian Church</p> <p>Discussion Group 9:30 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM</p> <p>Childrens program during service Blog: dancingforth.blogspot.com 541.398.0597</p> <p>Hwy 82, Lostine Stephen Kliever, Minister</p>	<p>Enterprise Community Congregational Church</p> <p>The Big Brown Church with an open door Pastor Archie Hook Sunday Worship 11am Bible Study 9:30am</p> <p>Ark Angels Children's Program Ages 4-6th grade, 11am Nursery for children 3 & under 301 NE First St. • Enterprise, OR Find us on Facebook! 541.426.3044</p>
<p>Wallowa Assembly of God</p> <p>606 West Hwy 82 Wallowa, Oregon 541-886-8445</p> <p>Sunday School • 9:am Worship Service • 10:am Pastor Tim Barton wallowaassemblyofgod.com</p>	<p>Seventh-Day Adventist Church & School</p> <p>305 Wagner (near the Cemetery) P.O. Box N, Enterprise, OR 97828 541-426-3751 Church 541-426-8339 School</p> <p>Worship Services Sabbath School 9:30 - 10:45 a.m. Worship Hour 11:00 a.m. - Noon Pastor Jonathan DeWeber</p>

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