

Insko stepping down as president at Eastern Oregon University

The Observer

LA GRANDE — Eastern Oregon University President Tom Insko announced Monday, Aug. 1, that he is leaving his post at the end of September.

Insko has been named president and chief executive officer at Collins, a wood products company based in Wilsonville.

"This was a difficult decision because serving as president, with this outstanding community of educators, students and professionals, has been among the most challenging but fulfilling experiences of my career," Insko said in a release announcing his departure. "I am so proud of what we have accomplished together over the last seven years, and while I will be serving Oregon in a different way, my goal is to con-



Tom Insko became the 12th president of Eastern Oregon University in 2015. Insko announced on Monday, Aug. 1, 2022, he has been named president and chief executive officer at Collins, a wood products company based in Wilsonville. He will leave EOU at the end of September.

continue to support and advance opportunities for the people in Eastern Oregon — and that includes the students and community at EOU."

Insko was appointed Eastern's 12th president in 2015 after more than 20 years as an executive at Boise Cascade. An EOU graduate and life-

long resident of La Grande, Insko brought his business experience along with a passion for expanding opportunities through education to

his role as president.

Under Insko's leadership EOU increased student access to higher education and protected affordability by keeping tuition flat during the pandemic in 2021-22. EOU has had some of the smallest increases in costs of all public universities in Oregon during his tenure while increasing its diversity and growing student retention rates.

Programs developed during Insko's tenure include the expansion of academic programs like agriculture entrepreneurship, reorganization of EOU's academic colleges and the addition of two new deans, securing funding for the new fieldhouse, the addition of men's and women's wrestling, lacrosse, and baseball, renovations and upgrades to buildings across campus, the Rural Engagement and Vitality Center, a

reorganization of the school's diversity, equity inclusion and belonging programs, and the just-launched Moon Shot for Equity project to eliminate achievement gaps.

"Tom was a nontraditional president with a background in operations and financial management, but it proved to be exactly the kind of leadership we needed," EOU Board Chairman Richard Chavez said. "Tom's passion for Oregon coupled with a strategic education and fiscal plan brought together everyone under one vision, which has led us to the strong position we are in today. He set a high bar for our next president, but we are confident we will attract a high caliber leader who can continue to advance the path forward putting the people and students of Eastern Oregon first."

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Pair of successful tournaments at Alpine Meadows



By Rochelle Danielson

Alpine Meadows Golf Course hosted two annual tournaments within this past three weeks. The Elks took place on the weekend of July 23-24, and the Gail Beck Ladies Invitational on Tuesday, Aug. 2.

"We had a good turnout. The course had teams starting on all nine tee boxes. Because it was not a crowded field, play flowed nicely," Chad Conrad, chairman of the Elks Tourney, said. "The sole survivor was quite suspenseful and fun to watch."

Marvin Gibbs and Mike Turner were the top win-

ners, while Dakota Hull and Terry Lamb took second place and Jerry Hook and Mel Jackson finished third.

Two-day score winners in the men's first flight gross were Tim Gilbert with a 152 and Mel Jackson with a 154. On the net side, Terry Lamb carded a 146 to edge out Chad Stangel with a 147.

In the men's second flight gross, Dick Anderson finished with a 162 and Mike Walborn finished with a 176. On the net, Dave Griffith posted a 136 and Tristin Beck carded a 148.

In the ladies flight gross, Kayla Hull had a 200 and on the net side, Cindy Griffith finished with a 212.

Carol Marr chaired the Gail Beck tournament again this year.

Gals from Baker, La Grande, Clarkston, Washington, and Lewiston, Idaho, traveled to Enter-

prise to join in the scramble. Praise to the brave souls who made their first trip across the Rattlesnake and Buford grades.

"The ladies came to have some fun, compete for money, golf balls and prizes. Some golfers came a day early to visit Wallowa Lake, ride the gondola and shop the shops," Marr said. "Out on the course newcomers to Alpine Meadows raved about the marvelous view of the Wallowas. That's a winner in itself."

Helping to make the tournament a fun-filled success, Belinda Kunz gets high marks for her salads and sandwiches, and kudos to Karen Coppin and daughter, Julie Jones, and Ernestine Kilgore for managing the hors d'oeuvres at the turn, and also giving the chef a hand at the luncheon.

Never to forget, a thanks to Cindy Parks for table decor

and contribution of a large share of the raffle prizes.

First-low gross was Colleen Schilling, Carol Marr and Rochelle Danielson with a 67. Second-low gross was Cally Goss, Beth Hough, Connie Lough and Panky Hauxwell with a 68. Third-low gross was Kim Thiel, Les Hendrick, Virginia Harting and Cindy Griffith with a 69. Wendy McCullough, Lil Harshfield and Sandy Gordon mastered a 75.

Closest to the pin winners were Tana Sanchez and Teresa Wolf. Kim Thiel and Lil Harshfield won the long drive and Carol Franks and Cindy Griffith won the closest to the line competition. Kim Thiel and Carol Marr won the long putt.

Rochelle Danielson of Enterprise loves the game of golf and has golfed for many years at Alpine Meadows.

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Coffee Break!

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-64.

- CLUES ACROSS 1. Breezed through 5. Time units (abbr.) 8. Pigeon's murmur 11. Moves aside in flight 13. Partner to "ahh" 14. Taxis 15. Monetary units of Turkey 16. Returned material authorization (abbr.)

- 61. Makes changes to 62. Some are secret 63. Tooth caregiver 64. Old English poet CLUES DOWN 1. Sign language 2. In style 3. Norwegian river 4. People with impaired hearing 5. Large stinging paper wasp 6. Bucharest is its capital 7. River in Ireland 8. Type of TV 9. Double-reed instruments 10. Spanish motorcycle manufacturer 11. Midway between south and southeast 14. French commune 19. Alike 23. A bachelor's apartment 24. Foot part between the ball and ankle 25. Belonging to a thing

WORD SCRAMBLE Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to golf. LABL

SUDOKU Fun By The Numbers Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku! This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Guess Who? I am an actor born in Australia on August 11, 1983. I started my career on an Australian soap opera. While I was cast in various films, my big break came playing the god of thunder in a Marvel film series.

CRYPTO FUN Solve the code to discover words related to golf. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 5 = C)

TEE OFF WORD SEARCH Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards. WORDS AIMING ALIGNMENT APPROACH ATTACK BACKSWING BALANCE BALATA BIRDIE BLOCK BOBBING BOGEY BUNKER CADDIE CARRY CHIP CONNECTION DIVOT DRIVER EAGLE GRIP PUTT ROTATION SHAFT SWING

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