

NFL All Pro Drew Bledsoe returns home

Big Blue Boosters create award to honor professional athletes



Photo: Tod Crouter

Walla Walla High School's Big Blue Boosters presented **Drew Bledsoe** with a Professional Athlete Alumni Award Saturday night during halftime of the Wa-Hi vs. Eisenhower boys' basketball game.

Bledsoe received a standing ovation before thanking Walla Walla for its support throughout his 14 year professional career. He said he was always proud to call Walla Walla his home. Former NFL player **Dean Derby** and current Major League Baseball pitcher **Eric O'Flaherty** of the Atlanta Braves have also received awards. The Boosters created this new award to honor its professional athlete graduates.

Award information and player memorabilia is available for public view in new display cases at the Wa-Hi main gym.

Pioneer students *On TRAC*

This year Pioneer Middle School developed a new program *Taking Responsibility for Academic Commitment* or TRAC to help students become more accountable for their education and to help them improve their organizational skills.

Counselor **David Tegtmeier** said this program is a component of the district's Response to Intervention (RTI) model and is considered a Tier Two intervention.

Students who are missing three or more unexcused assignments in a core subject, or who are failing at the mid-term grading period in a core subject, are placed on an academic improvement plan.

A conference with teachers, parents and the student is then scheduled to discuss an appropriate improvement plan.

Students who are placed in the TRAC program meet four days a week after school to continue developing their academic skills. Students reported to school board members the program is helping them improve their academic performance and become more organized.

Snow make-up date Friday, May 7

Last night Superintendent **Rich Carter** announced school will be in session Friday, May 7 as a snow make-up day.

A severe ice storm forced school to be closed Tuesday, Dec. 15.

May 7 was designated on the approved 2009-2010 calendar as a possible snow make-up day.

In other School Board meeting business...

Board members:

- approved minutes of the January 19, 2010 school board meeting, minutes of the January 26, 2010 Special Board Meeting/ Work Session/Executive Session, Co-Curricular Contracts, Extra-Curricular Contracts, and the School Board meeting schedule, July-December 2010.
- Resolution 16-2010 - Final Acceptance - Edison Elementary.

Personnel Report

• Resignations/Retirements

Certificated: **Jillian DeBritz**, Social Studies, Wa-Hi, 5 years
(effective at the end of the 2009-10 school year)

• Out-of-State Travel

Mira Gobel to attend RTI Summit Presentation in Charleston, SC (SEDL - no cost to the district)

Quote of the Week

"It is a greater work to educate a child, in the true and larger sense of the word, than to rule a state."

William Ellery Channing

School Board ongoing Committee Assignments

Max Carrera

- Safe Schools
- Career/Technical Education
- Classified Negotiations (w/Cindy Meyer)
- Head Start Policy Council

Dan Hess

- Community Facilities Task Force
- Extracurricular Supervisors Negotiations
- Administrative Negotiations
- School-Based Health Center

Anne Golden

- Curriculum Advisory and Instructional Materials
- Certificated Negotiations (w/Jim Lehmann)
- Legislative Representative
- District Calendar (back up)

Jim Lehmann

- WIAA Liaison
- Certificated Negotiations (w/Anne Golden)
- Technology/Telecommunications
- District Calendar

Cindy Meyer

- Explorer Advisory Committee
- Parent Advisory
- Classified Negotiations (w/Max Carrera)

School Board Meetings

July-December 2010

Tuesday, July 20

Tuesday, August 17

Tuesday, September 7

Tuesday, September 21

Tuesday, October 5

Tuesday, October 19

Tuesday, November 2

Tuesday, November 16

Tuesday, December 14

All School Board meetings begin at 7:30 p.m., unless changed by the school board. Additional meetings may be scheduled as necessary.

AAUW plans annual book sale

The American Association of University Women- Walla Walla organization is planning its 35th annual book sale February 19-21 at the Marcus Whitman Hotel and Conference Center. Thousands of gently used books in more than 30 categories will be up for sale.

Proceeds fund scholarships and educational projects for women and girls. Community members are also encouraged to donate books.

AAUW Book Sale Schedule

Friday, Feb. 19 - Noon to 9 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 20 - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 21 - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Call 522-5007 or 526-3232 for information, drop box locations or pick-up. To learn more, visit: aauw-wallawalla.org.

Art Regier Outstanding Volunteers of the Years Award

Nominations are being accepted through **Friday, March 26** for the Art Regier Outstanding Volunteers of the Year Award. Recipients will be recognized at the April 20 school board meeting. Nomination forms are available at all Walla Walla Public Schools and the district office.

Criteria for selection may include the following:

1. Exceptional service or contributions to students
2. Unusual dedication
3. Demonstration of care, compassion and empathy

Recipients of the Art Regier Outstanding Volunteer Award will be honored with a plaque to display at their home or place of business, and their name will be permanently affixed to a memorial plaque in the school district's board room at 364 South Park Street. For more information, please call Communications Director Mark Higgins 526-6716.