OIA Bylaws; Article 14. General Provisions

#### 14.13 DRUGS. ALCOHOL, TOBACCO

#### 14.13.1 <u>OIA POSITION STATEMENT – SUPPLEMENTS, DRUGS AND PERFORMANCE ENHANCING</u> SUBSTANCES

The Oregon Interscholastic Association (OIA) views sport, and the participation of studentathletes in sport, as an activity that enhances the student-athlete's well-being by providing an environment and stimulus that promotes growth and development along a healthy and ethically based path.

- It is the position of the OIA that a balanced diet, providing sufficient calories, is optimal for meeting the nutritional needs of the growing student-athlete.
- It is the position of the OIA that nutritional supplements are rarely, if ever, needed to replace a healthy diet.
- Nutritional supplement use for specific medical conditions may be given individual consideration.
- The OIA is strongly opposed to "doping", defined as those substances and procedures listed on the World Anti Doping Agency's Prohibited List (www.wada-ama.org).
- It is the position of the OIA that there is no place for the use of recreational drugs, alcohol or tobacco in the lifestyle of the student-athlete. The legal consequences for the use of these products by a student-athlete are supported by the OIA.

In pursuit of Victory with Honor, the OIA promotes the use of exercise and sport as a mechanism to establish current fitness and long-term healthy lifestyle behaviors. It is the position of the OIA that the student-athlete, who consumes a balanced diet, practices sport frequently and consistently, and perseveres in the face of challenges, can meet these goals.

- 14.13.2 At least annually, each member school shall communicate to its students participating in interscholastic activities the OIA Position Statement on the use of supplements, drugs and performance enhancing substances. (See Form 14.13)
- 14.13.3 Any coach or competitor using tobacco, alcoholic beverages or misusing drugs while participating in interscholastic competition shall be disqualified from the contest or tournament.
- **14.14** <u>**RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOST ARTICLES**</u> Neither the OIA nor the management of an OIA tournament, contest or festival site shall be responsible for lost articles.
- 14.15 <u>STUDENT INSURANCE</u> It is recommended that each student athlete have on file with the principal or his/her designee proof of insurance coverage or a waiver prior to practice.

#### OREGON INTERSCHOLASTIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

#### **OIA POSITION STATEMENT**

#### SUPPLEMENTS, DRUGS AND PERFORMANCE ENHANCING SUBSTANCES

**PURPOSE OF FORM:** All OIA Member schools are required to **ANNUALLY** communicate this OIA Position Statement on the use of supplements, drugs and performance enhancing substances to every participant in interscholastic activities. (See Article 14, Section 14.13.2)

The Oregon Interscholastic Association (OIA) views sport, and the participation of student-athletes in sport, as an activity that enhances the student-athlete's well-being by providing an environment and stimulus that promotes growth and development along a healthy and ethically based path.

- It is the position of the OIA that a balanced diet, providing sufficient calories, is optimal for meeting the nutritional needs of the growing student-athlete.
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In pursuit of **Victory with Honor**, the OIA promotes the use of exercise and sport as a mechanism to establish current fitness and long-term healthy lifestyle behaviors. It is the position of the OIA that the student-athlete, who consumes a balanced diet, practices sport frequently and consistently, and perseveres in the face of challenges, can meet these goals.

Jordan Simon

#### OREGON CHILD FATALITY REVIEW DATA FORM (2004 REVISIONS)

1.	Code # <u>05-1729</u> 2. Gender: Male Female Unknown 3. Date of Death: <u>05/06/2008</u>			
4.	Race: Asian/PAC Islander Black White Other American Indian – Tribe:			
5.	Ethnicity: 🗌 Hispanic 🗌 Non-Hispanic			
6.	Place of Death (6a-c on Death Certificate): City/State: <u>Chinook, OR</u> County: <u>Duniway</u> Hospital / Institution Address: Did the death occur on a reservation?  Yes No Unknown. If yes, identify the reservation:			
7.	Date of Birth: <u>8/02/1990</u>			
8.	Residence:       State:       OR       County:       Duniway       City:       Chinook         Census Tract:       1036.09			
9.	Death Certificate Registration No.: <u>1274315</u>			
10.	Cause of death as listed on the death certificate:Immediate cause:Heart attackAs a consequence of:Drug overdoseOther significant conditions:			
11.	Place of Injury (line 56 of death certificate): Home			
12.	Location of injury (line 57 of death certificate): 623 East Hearn, Chinook, OR			
13.	Was the death certificate adequately prepared?       Yes       No.         If no, specify:       Problem with demographics:			
14.	Does the cause of death on the death certificate agree with the medical record? Xes No N/A If no, specify:			
15.	Did the team agree with the cause of death? Xes No If no, team's assessment of the underlying cause of death:			
16.	Were there one or more chronic medical problems(s)?  Yes No X Unknown If yes, specify Did they contribute to the cause of death?  Yes No X Unknown			
17.	Were there significant developmental delays? If yes, specify: Did they contribute to the cause of death? Yes No Kunknown			
18.	If the case was not referred to the Medical Examiner for exam, should it have been? (Answer only if this was not referred to the ME).			
	Yes No Unknown			
19.	What was the manner of death on the death certificate?			

20.	Was an autopsy done? Yes No Unknown If yes: Done by the Medical Examiner's Office Done elsewhere If no: Was not necessary Should have been done
21.	Was toxicology done?       Yes       No       Unknown         If yes:       Positive Findings/Comments: Extremely high level of erythropoietin
22.	For children under 2 years of age, were x-rays done just prior to/or after death?  Yes No Unknown If yes, what were the results? If no: Should have been done Not indicated
23.	Answer for all accidental, homicide, suicide, or undetermined manners of death. Do not answer for natural deaths, unless circumstances warrant review of CPS involvement. Was there prior CPS involvement with the family? Yes No If yes: Open at the time of death Closed prior to death Prior Reports: One Multiple
24.	Family medical coverage: AHCCCS IIIS Private Insurance Self-Pay Unknown

#### ANSWER FOR ALL CHILDREN UNDER AGE 12 MONTHS, REGARDLESS OF CAUSE

25.	Infant Death: Birth Certificate Registration #:
	Multiple Birth: 🗌 Yes 🔲 No 📋 Unknown
	Maternal Age:
	Gestational age at first prenatal visit (months):
	Number of prenatal visits:
	Birth weight (grams):
	Gestational age at birth (weeks);
	Smoking during pregnancy: 🗌 Yes 🗌 No 🗌 Unknown
	Alcohol use during pregnancy: 🗌 Yes 🗌 No 🗌 Unknown
	Substance use during pregnancy: Yes No Unknown. If yes, specify:

## If a natural or medical death, complete #26, then skip to #38. if not a natural/medical death, skip to #27 (all non-natural and unknown causes).

26. Was this a natural/medical death? Yes No (If yes, check all that contributed to death. If there are multiple causes for the death, please place #1 next to the principle cause).

	Infectious disease specify:
	Metabolic/Genetic, specify:
	Prematurity, specify weeks gestation:
	Neoplastic disease, specify:
	Congenital condition, specify:
	Cardiac disease, specify:
	Respiratory disease, specify:
	Renal/Urinary, specify:
	Neurologic disease, specify:
	Endocrine disease, specify:
	Gastrointestinal disease, specify:
	Hematologic disease, specify:
	Perinatal condition, specify:
	Other natural/medical causes, specify:
	SIDS – Put to sleep on: Back Side Stomach Unknown
	Setting: In-home Child care facility Family childcare (5 years or less) Other:
	Caretaker: Parent Relative Non-Relative

Answer for all natural deaths: Was environmental tobacco exposure a risk factor in this death? Ves No Unknown If yes, explain:

# Questions 27-37 pertain to all non-natural causes of death such as accidents, homicides, suicides, motor vehicle crashes, and violence; and unknown causes.

27.	Was this death the result of drowning?       Yes       No       (If yes, answer remainder of question #27).         List type of drowning:       Bathtub       Bucket       Canal       Lake/River       Multi-family private pool         (i.e., apartment, condo)       Private Residence Pool       Public Pool       toilet       Other:         If drowning occurred in a pool:       Was the pool fenced?       Yes       No       Unknown         Was the lock secure?       Yes       No       Unknown         Other fencing issues:			
28.	<ul> <li>Was this death the result of fire or burns? ☐ Yes ☐ No (If yes, answer remainder of question #28).</li> <li>Describe the type of burn: ☐ Fire ☐ Chemical ☐ Hot Liquid</li> <li>If this was the result of a fire:</li> <li>What was the type of fire? ☐ Residential ☐ Business ☐ Motor Vehicle ☐ Other:</li> <li>Were fire/smoke alarms present? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown ☐ N/A</li> <li>If yes, were they functional? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown</li> <li>Was this death the result of smoke inhalation? ☐ Yes ☐ No</li> </ul>			
29.	<ul> <li>Was this death the result of gunshot wound? Yes No (If yes, answer remainder of question #29).</li> <li>Who shot the child? Self Parent Stepparent Relative Acquaintance Stranger</li> <li>Law Enforcement Other Unknown</li> <li>Who owned the gun? Self Parent Stepparent Relative Acquaintance Stranger</li> <li>Law Enforcement Other Unknown</li> <li>Was the gun locked? Yes No Unknown Where was the gun kept?</li> <li>Type of gun: Hand gun Semi-automatic Shotgun Rifle Other: What was the location of the shooting? Residence School Public Place Other:</li> </ul>			
30.	Was this death the result of motorized vehicle crash?       Yes       No       (If yes, answer remainder of question #30).         Type of vehicle:       Automobile/Truck       Motorcycle       ATV       Boat       Airplane       Jet ski       Motorized         Scooter       Train       Other:			
	Did the vehicle have restraints?       Yes       No       N/A         If yes, were restraints used appropriately?       Yes       No       Unknown         Did the vehicle have air bags?       Yes       No       Unknown       N/A         If yes, did air bags deploy       Yes       No       Unknown       N/A         If yes, did air bags deploy       Yes       No       Unknown       N/A         If yes, did the air bag cause or contribute to the death?       Yes       No       Unknown         If no deployment, was the air bag switch on?       Yes       No       Unknown         Was there in-utero trauma?       Yes       No       Unknown       N/A         Was age of driver a factor?       Yes       No       Unknown       N/A         If yes, specify age:			

31.					
	Yes X No If yes, answer remainder of question #31. If yes, what type of vehicle? Bicycle Skateboard Roller-Skates (Roller Blades)				
	Scoters (Non-Motor) Snow board Skis Other:				
32.	If death was the result of #30 or #31, was a helmet worn? $\Box$ Yes $\Box$ No $\Box$ Unknown				
33.	Was this death the result of any of the following? Answer question #33 only if questions #27-31 were answered				
	"no". If there are multiple causes for the death, please place #1 next to the principle cause.				
	Animal/insect/reptile bites, stings or other injury. Describe:				
	Choking. If yes, identify item child choked upon:				
	Blunt force trauma Abdominal Head Other: Describe: Exposure. If yes, was this due to: Border crossing Child in car				
	Exposure. If yes, was this due to:Border crossingChild in car Other outdoor exposure:				
	Electrocution. Describe incident:				
	Fall. Describe incident:				
	Hanging. Describe incident:				
	Head injury. Describe incident:				
	Overlying. Describe incident:				
	Poisoning due to inhalation or ingestion. Identify substance:				
	Shaken Infant. Describe incident:				
	Stabbing/laceration. Describe incident:				
	Strangulation. Describe incident:         Suffocation. Describe incident:				
	Starvation/malnutrition.				
	Other (not previously identified in #27-31 or #33): Heart attack due to accidental drug overdose				
34.	Was product safety an issue?  Yes No If yes, specify:				
35.	Family/household member circumstances (check all that apply):				
	Domestic Violence Physical handicap Substance Abuse Life crisis				
	Recent suicide (friend/acquaintance)				
	Previous mental health problem. If yes, was this problem treated? Ves No Unknown				
26	Child's simply stands of (shade all that any hill)				
36.	Child's circumstances (check all that apply):				
	Recent suicide (friend/acquaintance) Previously known suicidal ideation Criminal Behavior				
	Previous mental health problem If yes, was this problem treated? Yes No Unknown				
37.	Gang related? 🗌 Yes 🖾 No 🗌 Unknown				
ANG	WER THE REMAINING QUESTIONS FOR ALL DEATHS				
ANS	WER THE REMAINING QUESTIONS FOR ALL DEATHS				
38.	Did medical error (such as misdiagnosis, surgical error, medication error) contribute to the death?				
	Yes No Unknown If yes, describe:				
20					
39.	Did lack of medical care contribute to death?  Yes No Unknown If yes, describe:				
40.	Was this an unexpected death? (No prior knowledge of any medical condition that would have lead to this death)				
	Yes No Unknown				
4.1					
41.	Was a law enforcement investigation done? Yes No N/A Unknown				
	If yes, specify jurisdiction: <u>Chinook Police Department</u> Was the Infant Death Checklist received? Yes No N/A Unknown				
	Were charges filed? $\square$ Yes $\square$ No $\square$ N/A $\square$ Unknown				

#### 42. **SUPERVISION:**

	Did lack of appropriate supervision contribute to the child's death?         □ Yes       No       N/A       ☑ Unknown (If yes, answer the remainder of #42; if no, skip to #43).         Who was the caretaker?       □ Parent       □ Stepparent       □ Sibling       □ Other relative       □ Child Care       □ None         □ Other:		
	If yes, identify age: Did substance impairment of the c If yes, identify substance(s): List other supervision issues:	Methamphetamine Other:	ocaine 🗌 Sedative
			l disability 🗌 Other:
43.	Was this death the result of child i	Refer to guidelines <sup>*</sup> at bottom of pag maltreatment?	Unknown. If yes, please complete the
44.		t of child maltreatment, who was (	(were) the alleged perpetrator(s)? Check all that
		Friend/acquaintance Instit	StepmotherOther relativeutional staffStepfather
		present with the perpetrator?  Sult Sult Sult Sult Sult Sult Sult Sult	ibstance abuse
45.	What was the <u>team's</u> determination of manner of death? Natural Accident Suicide Homicide Undetermined If undetermined, describe reason for difficulty in determining manner:		
46.	To what degree was this death preventable?		
	Circle preventable issues or factor	s that apply: Describe other factors	not included in list.
	01 = Lack of prenatal care 02 = Lack of medical treatment 03 = Lack of immunization 04 = Exposure to smoking 05 = Medical error 06 = Prenatal substance abuse 07 = Infant sleep position 08 = Co-sleeping 09 = Unsafe bedding 10 = Parental supervision 11 = Barriers to pool Other:	12 = Child alone in/around water 13 = Smoke alarms 14 = Vehicle restraints 15 = Inexperienced driver 16 = Excessive speed = Drugs/alcohol 18 = Driver fatigue 19 = Passenger in back of truck 20 = Helmet usage 21 = Access to guns/weapons 22 = Gang involvement	<ul> <li>Criminal behavior</li> <li>24 = Curfew violation</li> <li>25 = Failure to report abuse</li> <li>26 = Illegal border crossing</li> <li>27 = Lack of mental health treatment</li> <li>28 = Maltreatment history</li> <li>29 = Domestic violence</li> <li>30 = Public awareness-suicide</li> <li>31 = lack of substance abuse treatment</li> <li>32 = Failure to recognize depressive symptoms</li> </ul>
47.	Comments/Recommendations:		
48.	Person completing this form: Print Name: <u>Dale M. Lucas</u>	Date6/15/2008 Signatu	ure <u>/s/ Dale M. Lucas</u>

#### ?? **MALTREATMENT:**

 $<sup>\</sup>overline{A$  "yes" answer to question #43 indicates that the following criteria have been met:

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services defines maltreatment as "An act or failure to act by a parent, caregiver, or other person as defined under State law which results in physical abuse, neglect medical neglect, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, or an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm to a child." This applies to the circumstances surrounding the death. 1.

The relationship of the individual accused of committing the maltreatment to the child must be the child's parent, guardian or caretaker. 2.

<sup>3.</sup> A team member, who is a mandated reporter, would feel obligated to report a similar incident to CPS.

49. Members in Attendance: Alejandro Martinez, Amy Decker, Richard Matheson and Keshawna Turner

#### 50. Documents Reviewed:

Death Certificate	Supplemental Death Certificate	Birth Certificate
CPS Report	Medical Examiner Report	Hospital Records
Behavioral Health Records	Law Enforcement Records	Department of Education
Public Health Records	Probation Records	Other: <u>Toxicology Report</u>

51. Signature of Team Chairperson: /s/ Alejandro Martinez

#### DUNIWAY COUNTY OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER PRELIMINARY TOXICOLOGY REPORT

REPORT NO.: 2008-01030	DATE OF REPORT: May 11, 2008
NAME OF DECEASED: Jordan Simon	DATE OF DEATH: May 6, 2008
PREPARED BY: R.C. Snyder, M.D.	SPECIMEN TYPE: Blood serum

I tested the specimen for the following substances, and my findings are set forth below:

Suspected Substance	Level
CNS Depressents	Negative
CNS Stimulants	Negative
Hallucinogens	Negative
PCP	Negative
Narcotic Analgesics	Negative
Inhalants	Negative
Cannabis	Negative
Alcohol	Negative
Erythropoietin	10,000 miu/ml

By comparison, in normal patients, serum levels of erythropoietin range from 10 to 30 miu/ml (milliunits per milliliter). These levels may increase 100- to 1000-fold during hypoxia or anemia.

# AS EVERYONE KNOWS, ANABOLIC STERCIDS MAKE YOU MORE ATTRACTIVE.

The choice you make today can abbect you borever.

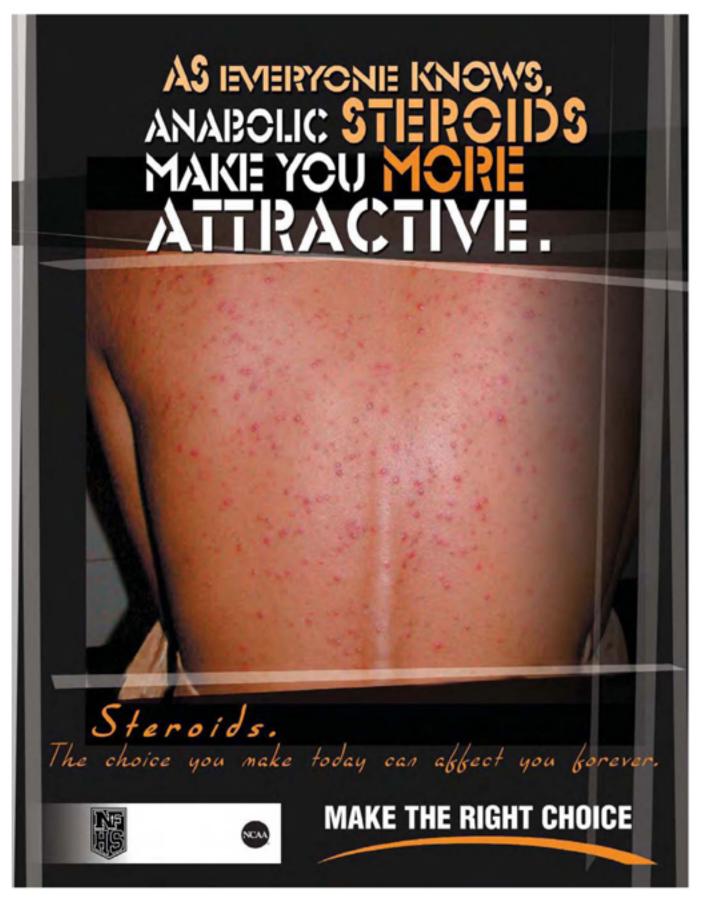
MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE

## Girls – did you know? Steroids may:

- · Give you a severe case of acne
- · Give you facial hair
- · Give you a case of bad breath
- Give you a deep enough voice to sing baritone in the choir
- · Make you look more like a man
- Increase your chances of being childless

Steroids.

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# CHOICE ISN'T ALWAYS EASY. As an athlete, you make choices every day that can determine if you succeed or fail.

Split-second decisions made during competition can immediately affect whether you win or lose. Other choices – such as how hard you practice, what you eat and how much you sleep – will influence how well you perform on any given day. Decisions about the number of sports you play, who you work with as your coach and how you deal with injury and defeat have more long-term consequences. These choices aren't always easy.

Another choice athletes must make involves the use of drugs to enhance athletic performance or appearance. And like all other choices, the decision to use drugs such as anabolic steroids will have both immediate and long-term consequences. All choices have consequences, but those that affect your health are more serious than others.

#### **Anabolic Steroids**

The hormones used by some athletes to increase muscle mass and strength are **anabolic**, **androgenic steroids**. Anabolic, androgenic steroids are synthetic forms of the male hormone testosterone. Like testosterone, these steroids have anabolic effects – primarily the increase in muscle tissue – and androgenic effects – the masculinizing effects boys experience during puberty. No anabolic, androgenic steroid is purely anabolic. In other words, the use of the steroids won't lead to muscle growth without also leading to other unintended. undesirable side effects.

Anabolic, androgenic steroids are different from steroids doctors prescribe to treat asthma and inflammation. These steroids are **corticosteroids**. Corticosteroids might be abused by athletes too, but generally not for purposes related to gaining mass and strength. The temptation to use anabolic steroids is understandable. There is a lot of pressure on young people to excel in athletics or to have a certain type of body. Research shows that athletes use steroids for one of two reasons: to gain strength or to recover more quickly from injury. In addition, studies show that nearly one third of high-school age steroid users do not participate in organized athletics and are taking the drugs primarily to modify their appearance.

#### Facts about Anabolic Steroids

These are facts that should be known to anyone who desires to be a better athlete or to change how he or she looks.

- Steroids are powerful drugs. Doctors prescribe them only for specific wasting diseases and for men who don't produce testosterone.
- The possession or sale of anabolic steroids in the United States without a prescription is illegal.
- The vast majority of high school and college athletes compete steroid free.
- Athletes who use injectable anabolic steroids in high school have tested positive in collegiate drug tests – months after they stop injecting steroids.
- Drug users who inject steroids are at greater risk for infections, including HIV and hepatitis.
- Avoid environments where steroid use might occur.Avoid people who you believe are involved with
- steroid use.
- Androstenedione and other similar hormonal substances are controlled substances and are no longer available in dietary supplements.

#### Side Effects from use of Anabolic Steroids

All professional and amateur sports organizations ban the use of steroids because of their dangerous side effects and because steroids give competitors an unfair advantage.

- The use of steroids by young people whose bones are still growing will result in stunted growth.
- Girls, like boys, use steroids to excel at their sport, recover from injury and modify their appearance.
- Girls who use steroids can grow body and facial hair and experience permanent voice lowering.
- Boys who use steroids can form breast tissue, begin to lose their hair (go bald) and have their testicles shrink.
- Boys and girls who use steroids can have thick, oily skin, which often leads to severe acne on the face and body.
- Steroid users report an initial feeling of well being that is later replaced by mood swings, loss of sleep and paranoia. Reports of depression are common in people who stop using steroids.
- Some athletes have died from steroid use either because of the effects of the steroids on their body or the effects of discontinuing steroid use without a doctor's help.

Athletes who are caught using steroids embarrass themselves, their parents, their coaches and their schools.

#### EASTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL 100m INDIVIDUAL BESTS (Thru April) 2007-2008

	Time	Year
Simon, Jordan		Sr
Pearce, Morgan		Sr
Hale, Trippe		Sr
Gonzales, Giani		
Patel, Shar		Jr
Hummel, Kia		So
Young, Kris		Fr
Lee, Kim		
Jones, Aberon		Fr
Sanders, Eli		Fr

#### EASTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL 100m FINAL MEET INDIVIDUAL TIMES 2006-2007

	Time	Year
Oswald, Jesse		Sr
Rosenstein, Andi		Sr
Lindros, Sam		Sr
Hale, Trippe		Jr
Simon, Jordan		
Pearce, Morgan		Jr
Gonzales, Giani		
Patel, Shar		
Hummel, Kia		Fr
Lee, Kim		

#### EASTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL 100m FINAL MEET INDIVIDUAL TIMES 2005-2006

	Time	Year
Rueles, Angel		Sr
Lewelan, Rory		Sr
Oswald, Jesse		
Rosenstein, Andi		Jr
Simon, Jordan		So
Lindros, Sam		
Hale, Trippe		So
Pearce, Morgan		
Gonzales, Giani		
Patel, Shar		Fr

# EASTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL100m FINAL MEET INDIVIDUAL TIMES2004-2005

	Time	Year
Andrews, Pat		Sr
Rueles, Angel		Jr
Lewelan, Rory		Jr
Oswald, Jesse		
Rosenstein, Andi		
Simon, Jordan		Fr
Lindros, Sam		So
Hale, Trippe		Fr
Pearce, Morgan		
Gonzales, Giani		

	FIRST CHINOOK BAN "TRUST FIRST CHINOOK" WITHDRAWAL SLIP	IK	
Date <u>12/17/07</u>		Checking	Savings 🗵
Accountholder_Jordan Simon		Account No	1966-0802
Amount \$ <u>8,500.00</u>			Teller ID <u>H47</u>
		/s/ J	Tordan Simon
		Authorized Signature	
L	<u> </u>		

	FIRST CHINOOK BANK "Trust First Chinook" WITHDRAWAL SLIP	
Date <u>2/11/08</u>	Checking  Savings	
Accountholder_Jordan Simon	Account No. 1966-0802	
Amount \$ <u>8,500.00</u>	Teller ID <u>A14</u>	
	/s/ Jordan Simon	
	Authorized Signature	

<b>First Chinook</b> <b>"Trust First Chin</b> WITHDRAWALS	00K"
Date <u>3/18/08</u>	Checking 🗆 Savings 🗵
Accountholder_Jordan Simon	Account No. <u>1966-0802</u>
Amount \$ <u>8,500.00</u>	Teller ID <u>C23</u>
	/s/ Jordan Simon Authorized Signature

#### Eastside High School Internet Printing Summary Report

Date/Time of Request: Student Name: Student ID No.: Documents: Pages: Monday, April 10, 2008 JORDAN SIMON 05-6357 1 2



Enhancing Your Performance The Unnatural Way A Look At the Banned Substance EPO

By Chris Tull B.T.com contributing writer

Everyone's talking about performance-enhancing drugs (PEDs) now thanks to Congressional hearings held this past March, highlighting steroid use in Major League Baseball.

No sport is immune from this inquiry's hot seat. Even the sport of triathlon, a competitive, yet under-theradar sport for years, has the bright lights of shame shining on it.

The biggest PED story in triathlon broke last fall when Nina Kraft won the 2004 Triathlon World Championship in Hawaii, yet tested positive for the banned substance —EPO or Erythropoietin.

So what exactly is EPO? What does it do? Why is it banned? And why would someone as talented as Nina Kraft use it in the biggest triathlon competition in the world?

#### **The Miracle Drug**

EPO first appeared on the market as a medical drug. The drug, when injected into the body, increased production of the oxygen-carrying red blood cells. It's still used today to treat several medical conditions.

EPO benefits cancer patients with blood weakened by chemotherapy treatments. It's also given to patients suffering kidney disease, and helps repair blood damaged by kidney dialysis. EPO, when provided under strict medical supervision, can be given safely.

But the trouble for EPO started in the late 1980'swhen the sports community discovered EPO heightens athletic performance significantly.

#### **Magic Shoes**

In 1989, seven athletes underwent an EPO experiment in Sweden. Swedish scientist, Dr. Bjorn Ekblom of the Stockholm Institute of Gymnastics and Sports, injected the athletes with EPO and then measured their endurance levels on a treadmill.

All subjects outperformed their previous endurance levels after injecting with EPO. Dr. Ekblom reported that, on average, EPO cut up to 30 seconds off a 20-minute running time. In world-class events, where fractions of a second sometimes separate winners from losers, the benefits of EPO for athletes are huge.

So why does EPO work so well for endurance athletes?

Muscles need oxygen to perform. Red blood cells in the blood carry this oxygen to the muscles. The more red blood cells in one's blood, the more oxygen that can be carried to the muscles.

This continual boost of oxygen allows muscles to perform longer. Thus, for endurance athletes, more oxygen in their blood is like growing wings their feet. A typically grueling, uphill marathon suddenly feels like a cakewalk with EPO.

Of course, there's a catch. A medical doctor can safely supply EPO to patients. However, an EPO overdose (a big problem with athletes and their "more is better" attitudes) results in thickened blood. When a person who's overdosed on EPO rests, their slowing heart tries to pump this thickened blood through their body.

The result is heart failure, and usually death - hence, one of the major reasons for banning EPO from professional sports competition.

Many athletes found this out the hard way.

#### The Lore of Athletic Glory

In February 1990, 27-year old Dutch professional cyclist Johannes Draaijer's died suddenly of a heart attack. This occurred roughly six months after he placed 20th in the month-long, 3,500-km Tour de France.

http://www.beginnertriathlete.com/cms/article-detail.asp?articleid=456&printer=1

#### The Steroid-free Choice

Given all of the negative aspects of steroid use, it just doesn't make sense to risk your health and your reputation. You have all sorts of great options when it comes to enhancing your sports performance or your appearance. Consider some of these.

- . Talk with your coach, parent, teacher or counselor about any frustrations you might have about how you are performing in your sport.
- Set short-term and long-term goals that will help you excel.
- Be well-hydrated while you compete. That will give you a natural advantage over your competition.
- Focus on getting a proper diet and plenty of rest.
- Don't trust gimmicks or quick-fix approaches. .
- Support your friends' decisions to be steroid-free. . Talk to a trusted adult if you suspect a friend or teammate is using anabolic steroids.
- Ask your coaches to lead a team discussion about steroid abuse.
- Work with a registered dietician to develop a plan for weight gain or fat loss. Learn when and how much to eat to enhance your athletic performance and how you look.



There are many resources available to you to help you achieve your athletic and personal goals resources geared specifically to athletes like you who want to succeed without using anabolic steroids. A listing of excellent online resources is available at www.nfhs.org.

#### References

"Hormone Abuse." The Hormone Foundation.

"Steroid Abuse by School-Age Children." U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration.

"Use of Performance-Enhancing Substances." American Academy of Pediatrics.

Special thanks to the Clell Wade Coaches Directory.

\* This brochure, in a pdf format, can be downloaded from the NFHS Web site at www.nfhs.org.



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At the time, cycling authorities credited his death to 'cardiovascular abnormalities' – agitated by the rigors of his sport. However, Draaijer's wife later told the German news magazine, *Der Spiegel*, that her husband became sick after using EPO.<sup>1</sup>

Overall, doctors credit EPO overdose to the deaths of over 20 professional cyclists from Europe to Central America during the late 1980's to early 1990's.

Of course, the lore of athletic glory isn't only limited to cyclists. In his book, *Drugs in Sports*, Edward F. Dolan recounts a survey where 100 runners were asked if they'd take a drug that would make them Olympic champions, but kill them in a year.<sup>2</sup>

More than one half the runners surveyed replied yes.

I don't think many would disagree that athletics have become competitive in all the wrong ways. I'm not sure when the change happened. I'm guessing sometime within the second half of the 20th century, when commercials and television started blending with sports.

Sporting participants are obsessed with victory. And I'm not just talking about sports on the professional levels. Amateur and masters athletes are just as crazy-competitive as the pros.

With athletics and its 'victory at any cost' mindset, it's easy to see how getting any edge (even if it means using an illegal PED) is tempting. Meanwhile, PED-free athletes watch in frustration as their competitors illegally achieve record performances in competition.

#### So What's a Beginning Triathlete To Do?

If you are competing, check the rules of your sport. If the sport considers a substance illegal, don't use it. Chances are the substance is banned for a reason.

As of this writing, the World Anti-Doping Agency and the International Olympic Committee have begun toughening testing standards. The National Football League and other professional leagues have proposed toughening the same testing standards. In other words, it's only going to be harder to get away with using banned substances in sports. Don't take a chance. Besides, there's no victory worth a health ruined by drugs.

And what to do with those caught using illegal-substances? Should you ban them from the sport for life? Should you take away their records? I have no idea. But feel free to voice your opinions on the www.beginnertriathlete.com forum.

Consider this, though: As Nina Kraft cycled to the finish of her bike leg in the 2004 Triathlon World Championship in Hawaii, she hung her head low. In first place, observers thought she was either being modest, or focused.

Kraft said she was simply ashamed. She knew she cheated. Maybe for someone as talented as Nina Kraft that's punishment enough.

About the Author: Chris Tull is a writer based out of the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Once upon a time, he was a 'burgers-and-beer-only' kind of guy. Chris has since lightened up on the diet and added yoga, weight lifting, and (of course) triathlon training to the mix. You can contact him at chrisandniki@yahoo.com or visit his online journal at <a href="http://ctull.blogspot.com/">http://ctull.blogspot.com/</a>

<sup>1</sup>Deacon, James, "A phantom killer: doctors target a new performance-enhancing drug," *Maclean's*, 1995.

<sup>2</sup>Dolan, Edward, F. Drugs in Sports. London: Franklin Watts, 1986.