

Pirate Shop Success Story

Matt Butler

Graduated Marshfield High School in 2007

Up until 1900, the city of Chicago dumped their raw sewage into the Chicago River, which emptied into Lake Michigan. Since their drinking water came from Lake Michigan, people were dying right and left from bad water. It appeared Mother Nature was on dirty laundry strike, so man had to outsmart her and reverse the flow of the Chicago River so that the raw sewage went south to empty into the Mississippi River.



Nowadays, we work more as partners with Mother Nature, and water treatment operators like Matt Butler are the technicians that make it all work. Matt took classes at Linn-Benton Community College and California State University to earn his certificates to work in the water treatment industry, and he now is employed by the city of Coquille, Oregon.

Matt was always a hard-working guy in class and worked at the local Safeway store during high school. Asked about success and what it means to him he said, "Success. It's a odd term, everyone thinks they're going to be successful at this one job, then life throws you a curve and you need to find another source of income. Being successful ... is finding ways to overcome obstacles that get in your way."

I'll have to get Matt in as a guest speaker in my class someday.



Pirate shop students' latest outside attraction. Plato's perfect solids. Euclid (300 BC), the "father of geometry," provided the first mathematical argument that there could only exist five perfect solids, although they were previously known and admired for their geometry symmetry 1000 years before Plato, in the form of carved stone balls done by the Neolithic people of Scotland.