

THE OBSERVER

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March 8, 2022

TUESDAY EDITION

\$1.50

Skier dies after crash

Accident happens on northwest slope of Gunsight Peak

By DICK MASON
The Observer

NORTH POWDER — A student attending a Washington college died following a ski accident on the northwest slope of Gunsight Peak, southwest of the Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort's ski area, on Saturday, March 5.

Ella Carr, 20, was severely injured after losing control and crashing into trees, according to a Union County Search and Rescue press release.

The accident was reported at 11:22 a.m. March 5 after a person Carr was skiing with called 911, according to Union County Search and

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Shining a light on addiction

Shine A Light prayer vigil series seeks to address opioid problem in Union County

By DICK MASON
The Observer

LA GRANDE — Four months ago Jay Devin lost his grandson due to an opioid overdose in Central Oregon.

The loss turned the La Grande man's life upside down.

"After it happened I blacked everything out for weeks," Devin said. "I blame myself because I was not there to help my grandson."

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Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian

Union's Kaylin Nowak (23) hoists the Oregon School Activities Association Class 2A tournament trophy as teammates celebrate. The Union Bobcats defeated the Salem Academy Crusaders 52-38 on Saturday, March 5, 2022, to win the OSAA Class 2A State Basketball Tournament at the Pendleton Convention Center in Pendleton.

A PIECE OF history

Union ends school's 73-year title drought in basketball

By DAVIS CARBAUGH
The Observer

PENDLETON — In 1949, a gallon of gas cost roughly 27 cents. Harry Truman was president, and George Mikan led the Minneapolis Lakers over Red Auerbach's Washington Capitols in the NBA Championship.

That same year, the Union boys basketball team won the school's last state championship in basketball. After a 73-year hiatus without a title on the hardwood, the Union girls basketball team made history Saturday, March 5, in winning the first-ever girls state championship in a 52-38 win over Salem Academy at the Pendleton Convention Center.

"It feels like a movie right now," Union senior guard Audrey Wells said. "It feels surreal."

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Ben Lonergan/East Oregonian

ABOVE: Union Head Coach Jordan Klebaum-Johnston hoists Berklee Johnston following Union's win over Salem Academy. **BACKGROUND:** Union fans cheer during the first half as the Union Bobcats defeated the Salem Academy Crusaders 52-38 on Saturday, March 5, 2022, to win the Oregon School Activities Association Class 2A State Basketball Tournament at the Pendleton Convention Center in Pendleton.

PLUS: LA GRANDE BOYS LOSE HEARTBREAKER

Tigers battle back from 15-point deficit in the fourth quarter to tie the game late in regulation, but Banks' Cooper Gobel sealed the game with a three-point basket as time expired. **Page A9**



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WEATHER Full forecast on the back of B section

Tonight 24 Low
A bit of snow

Wednesday 30/6
A.M. snow showers

CONTACT US

541-963-3161

Issue 29
2 sections, 16 pages
La Grande, Oregon

Email story ideas to news@lagrandeobserver.com.
More contact info on Page A4.



THURSDAY

EOU MASK MANDATE TO BE LIFTED MARCH 12

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