

TODAY

In 1536, Archbishop of Canterbury Thomas Cranmer declared the marriage of England's King Henry VIII to Anne Boleyn invalid after she failed to produce a male heir; Boleyn, already condemned for high treason, was executed two days later. In 1940, the Nazis occupied Brussels, Belgium, during World War II. In 1946, President Harry S. Truman seized control of the nation's railroads, delaying — but not preventing — a threatened strike by engineers and trainmen. In 1954, a unanimous U.S. Supreme Court handed down its Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka decision which held that racially segregated public schools were inherently unequal, and therefore unconstitutional. In 1973, a special committee convened by the U.S. Senate began its televised hearings into the Watergate scandal. In 1980, rioting that claimed 18 lives erupted in Miami's Liberty City after an all-white jury in Tampa acquitted four former Miami police officers of fatally beating Black insurance executive Arthur McDuffie. In 1987, 37 American sailors were killed when an Iraqi warplane attacked the U.S. Navy frigate Stark in the Persian Gulf. (Iraq apologized for the attack, calling it a mistake, and paid more than \$27 million in compensation.) In 1996, President Bill Clinton signed a measure requiring neighborhood notification when sex offenders move in. ("Megan's Law," as it's known, was named for Megan Kanka, a 7-year-old New Jersey girl who was raped and murdered in 1994.) In 2004, Massachusetts became the first state to allow same-sex marriages. In 2010, the Supreme Court ruled 5-4 that young people serving life prison terms should have "a meaningful opportunity to obtain release" provided they didn't kill their victims. In 2015, a shootout erupted between bikers and police outside a restaurant in Waco, Texas, leaving nine of the bikers dead and 20 people injured. In 2017, the Justice Department appointed former FBI Director Robert Mueller as a special counsel to oversee a federal investigation into potential coordination between Russia and the 2016 Donald Trump campaign. In 2020, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo was tested for the coronavirus on live TV as he announced that all people in the state who were experiencing flu-like symptoms were eligible for tests.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Peter Gerety is 82. Singer Taj Mahal is 80. Rock musician Bill Bruford is 73. TV personality Kathleen Sullivan is 69. Boxing Hall of Famer Sugar Ray Leonard is 66. Sports announcer Jim Nantz is 63. Producer Simon Fuller (TV: "American Idol") is 62. Singer Enya is 61. Actor-comedian Craig Ferguson is 60. Singer-musician Trent Reznor (Nine Inch Nails) is 57. TV personality/interior designer Thom Filicia is 53. Singer Jordan Knight is 52. R&B singer Darnell Van Rensalier (Shai) is 52. U.S. Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo is 51. Actor Sasha Alexander is 49. Rock singer-musician Josh Homme is 49. Rock singer Andrea Corr (The Corrs) is 48. Singer Kandi Burruss is 46. Actor Kat Foster is 44. Actor Ayda Field is 43. Actor Ginger Gonzaga is 39. Folk-rock singer/songwriter Passenger is 38. Actor Nikki Reed is 34. Actor Justin Martin is 28.

Corrections
The Observer works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-963-3161.

LOTTERY
Friday, May 13, 2022
Megamillions
11-41-43-44-65
Megaball: 13
Megaplier: 3
Jackpot: \$112 million
Lucky Lines
3-8-9-14-20-24-25-32
Jackpot: \$31,000
Pick 4
1 p.m.: 1-1-6-1
4 p.m.: 2-8-7-0
7 p.m.: 4-4-4-7
10 p.m.: 3-7-6-5
Saturday, May 14, 2022
Powerball
6-40-41-45-52
Powerball: 9
Power Play: 3
Jackpot: \$90 million
Megabucks
6-28-33-36-37-47
Jackpot: \$5.5 million
Lucky Lines
2-7-10-14-17-23-27-29
Jackpot: \$32,000
Pick 4
1 p.m.: 9-7-7-8
4 p.m.: 0-8-9-6
7 p.m.: 0-3-6-3
10 p.m.: 9-1-2-5
Win for Life
18-28-37-52
Sunday, May 15, 2022
Lucky Lines
1-7-9-15-18-22-27-29
Estimated jackpot: \$33,000
Pick 4
1 p.m.: 6-6-3-7
4 p.m.: 6-6-7-7
7 p.m.: 6-2-6-3
10 p.m.: 3-4-4-2

'A really good experience'

Elgin band misses out on winning trophy by one point during first state championship

By **SHERAZ SADIQ**
Oregon Public Broadcasting

CORVALLIS — The Elgin High School band competed for the first time in the statewide Oregon School Activities Association band and orchestra championships, finishing in fifth place among the seven other bands competing in their school division.

The event started on Wednesday, May 11, in Corvallis and drew nearly 200 public and private high schools from around the state.

Elgin High School band and choir director Tucker Murphey said he was "extremely proud" of his team and their accomplishment.

"They exceeded all my expectations today. I thought the students handled themselves with great poise and professionalism," he said. "We are bummed that we didn't come home with a trophy but we are hungry to get back to it next year and hopefully make it to the podium."

Erika Adams, a flute player, is one of two seniors in the band and is graduating at the end of the month.

"We are a young band and I was trying not to get my hopes up," she said. "But it was such a good experience to go through it and learn from it, and I'm just really looking forward to hearing about how well they do in the future."

The team scored a total of 278 points, just one point shy of earning a trophy, according to Murphey. Their performance was evaluated on several measures, including intonation and accuracy of



Matt Polacek/Contributed Photo

The Elgin High School band prepares to perform at the May 2022 OSAA state band and orchestra championships in Corvallis. The band finished fifth in its school division.

playing the notes in the three musical compositions they performed.

Still, Murphey is thankful for the experience of leading the band to its first-ever appearance at the state finals and is already planning to make changes to be better prepared for next year, including folding in early morning rehearsals.

"We were the very first group to play, really early at 8 a.m., and my class is in the afternoon, so we are not used to performing in the morning," he said.

Adams has two younger sisters who also perform in the 16-member band.

"It's just a really good experience, especially because we're able to critique each other in a way that's not hurtful, but they tell me how I can improve myself, and we go home and we practice together," she said.

Adams has been a student of Murphey's since the sixth grade when she decided to pick up the flute and join her friends in band practice.

She was a freshman in 2019 when the band's per-

formance at a district competition clocked in at just under 15 minutes, the minimum length required under contest rules to advance to the state finals.

"I remember Mr. Murphey being really disappointed and it hurt me more that our teacher had seen such hopes for us and that we weren't able to get there because of what seemed to be small reasoning," Adams said.

Murphey resolved to avoid any missteps the following year. But then came the pandemic, which brought the music to a halt well beyond the halls of Elgin High.

"When COVID hit and I lost four seniors (to graduation), I thought the sky was falling. Would the band ever be able to play again at this level?" Murphey said.

He also faced a more pressing problem: How to keep bandmates engaged and developing musically when they couldn't meet in person for rehearsals and performances? So Murphey posted assignments on Google Classroom and had the students record them-

selves completing them for him to critique.

And he also found a way to showcase the band's growth and instill a sense of cohesion.

"For one of our winter concerts, we were all socially distanced. We played in the gym and I posted it to YouTube and sent it out to parents," Murphey said.

Adams welcomed the opportunity to perform together in person after months spent practicing the flute without all her bandmates nearby for encouragement and motivation.

"We hadn't been together in forever and it was just exciting to hear that nice big, warm sound again," she added.

In August, she will leave Elgin to start her first semester at Brigham Young University-Idaho. She plans to bring her flute along and the memories of her time learning from her teacher, mentor and friend.

"Mr. Murphey is so inspirational," Adams said. "He pushes me to be a better person inside class and outside of class."

Mostly dry conditions expected this week

Rain in forecast for La Grande on May 19, snow may hit Enterprise and Meacham

By **DICK MASON**
The Observer

LA GRANDE — La Grande, Enterprise and Meacham are projected to have dry weather this week except on Thursday, May 19, when they all have a 40% chance of precipitation, according to the National Weather Service in Pendleton.

La Grande will have a 40% chance of rain, and Enterprise and Meacham will have a 40% chance of snow. The precipitation will be caused by a fleeting low-pressure system.

"A fast-moving

low-pressure system will be passing through," said Rob Brooks, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Pendleton.

The reason Enterprise and Meacham will have a 40% percent chance of snow on May 19 and La Grande will have a chance of rain is the differences in elevations, Brooks said. La Grande has an elevation of 2,785 feet, Enterprise is at 3,757 feet and Meaham is at 3,694 feet.

The highs forecast for La Grande this week are 66 degrees on Tuesday, May 17; 61 degrees on

Wednesday, May 18; 62 degrees on May 19; 58 degrees on Friday, May 20; and 63 degrees on Saturday, May 21. The lows in La Grande are projected by the National Weather Service to be 44 degrees on May 17, 37 degrees on May 18, 35 degrees on May 19, 37 degrees on May 20 and 42 degrees on May 21.

La Grande's temperatures will likely be close to average for the month of May, based upon temperature data from 1991 to 2020, Brooks said. La Grande's average high in May is 67.8 degrees and its average low is 42.5 degrees.

The highs forecast for Enterprise are 63 degrees on May 17, 59 degrees on

May 18, 48 degrees on May 19, 54 degrees on May 20 and 59 degrees on May 21. The low temperatures expected in Enterprise are 39 degrees on May 17, 30 degrees on May 18 and May 19, 32 degrees on May 20 and 36 degrees on May 21.

Meacham is projected to have high temperatures of 60 degrees on May 17, 57 degrees on May 18, 48 degrees on May 19, 55 degrees on May 20 and 64 degrees on May 21. Forecasters are predicting Meacham will have low temperatures of 40 degrees on May 17, 33 degrees on May 18, 41 degrees on May 19, 34 degrees on May 20 and 39 degrees on May 21.

Man suffers serious injuries in fall from rock cropping

The victim was hurt 6.5 miles southeast of Catherine Creek State Park

By **DICK MASON**
The Observer

LA GRANDE — A 41-year-old La Grande man suffered serious injuries in a fall from a rock outcropping in southeast Union County this weekend.

The victim slipped and fell about 150 vertical feet from the rock outcropping, which was just off Merry-Go-Round Road, 6.5 miles southeast of Catherine Creek State Park, on Saturday, May 14, according to Union County Emergency Manager Nick Vora. The victim was later flown by a Life Flight Network helicopter to St. Alphonsus Medical Center, Boise. Vora said



Union County/Contributed Photo

The victim of a fall in southeastern Union County on Saturday, May 14, 2022, was transported to St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center, Boise, via a Life Flight helicopter. The patient was driven from the accident site to the helicopter by ambulance. The helicopter could not land at the accident location because of the rough terrain.

the patient is expected to recover from his injuries.

The man who fell was with a group of all-terrain vehicle riders who rode off Merry-Go-Round Road and then up to a viewpoint. There he got off his ATV and later fell off the outcropping.

The accident was

called into Union County's dispatch soon afterward at 4:41 p.m. Eight Union County Search and Rescue volunteers, Vora, Union County Sheriff Cody Bowen, three sheriff's deputies, ambulances with the La Grande Fire and Union fire departments, a member of U.S. Forest Ser-

vice law enforcement, and a Life Flight helicopter soon arrived to conduct the rescue.

First responders set up a low angle rope system that a Stokes litter basket was tied to. The man was placed in the basket and pulled up a steep 500-foot incline.

"It was the equivalent of pulling somebody up a ski slope," Vora said.

Once up the slope the individual was transported in an ambulance to a Life Flight helicopter, a drive that took about 10 minutes. The helicopter pilot was not able to land closer to the accident scene because of the rugged terrain.

Vora said the rescue was successful due in large part to the assistance of volunteer first responders.

"If it had not been for their help we would not have had the same outcome in the same time period," Vora said.

NEWS BRIEFS

Kokanee fishing derby planned at Wallowa Lake

WALLOWA LAKE — The first of what promises to be an annual fishing derby to benefit veterans will take place June 10-11 on Wallowa Lake with the Cross the Divide Kokanee Derby.

The prize for first place is \$1,000. The angler who reels in the biggest fish wins \$500. Gear packages go to those judged in second through fifth place.

Entry fees include a \$60 boat fee, \$40 each for adults and \$25 each for those aged 12-17. Children 11 and younger compete for free.

There is a maximum of five people allowed per boat.

Check-in begins at 6 a.m. June 10 and June 11 at the north and south boat ramps at the lake.

The derby runs from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Winners will be announced at 4 p.m. June 11.

The entry fee includes a fundraiser dinner on June 10 at 5 p.m. at Enterprise Christian Church and five raffle tickets.

More than 40 items will be up for raffle and auction, including a guided salmon-fishing trip for four at Buoy 10 in Astoria.

Proceeds benefit Cross the Divide's outdoor program to help pay for veterans and their families to travel and take part in hunting and fishing activities throughout the Pacific Northwest.

According to Cross the Divide's website, its mission is "equipping our veterans and their families through faith-building, retreats, and the great outdoors."

To enter the derby or purchase dinner tickets visit www.crossthedivide.us. For more information, call Andy Marcum at 541-263-1053.

Airport lands grant for infrastructure improvements

LA GRANDE — The La Grande/Union County Airport has been awarded a \$980,000 grant from Connect Oregon for fuel storage and maintenance facility improvements, according to a press release from the Union County Board of Commissioners.

Connect Oregon is an initiative established by the 2005 state Legislature to invest in non-highway modes of transportation.

The funding the La Grande/Union County Airport will receive will allow the airport to add a new 10,000-gallon jet fuel tank, a 5,000-gallon fuel truck, a maintenance shop, an aircraft hangar and electrical generators to power its fuel farm and fixed-based operations during power outages.

In addition, the added fuel capacity will support emergency medical transportation, wildland fire suppression, cargo shipment and general aviation.

Paul Anderes, a member of the Union County Board of Commissioners, said the added fuel storage capacity will help wildfire fire-fighting efforts in a big way because more jet aircraft are now used to fight wildfires and they use more fuel.

Union County Public Works Director Doug Wright, who is also the county's airport director, said the funding the county has been awarded is a credit to the hard work and support provided by Anderes, State Rep. Bobby Levy, R-Echo, the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Oregon Department of Aviation.