

# THE OBSERVER

SERVING UNION AND WALLOWA COUNTIES SINCE 1896

July 5, 2022

TUESDAY EDITION

lagrandeobserver.com | \$1.50

## Water plan receives state-level recognition

Passage of a resolution for Upper Grande Ronde Basin plan by commission may open doors

By **DICK MASON**  
The Observer

LA GRANDE — The leaders of an effort to improve the flow of rivers and streams in the Upper Grande Ronde Basin, which includes Catherine Creek, have

received buoyant news. The Oregon Water Resources Commission passed a resolution recognizing the Upper Grande Ronde Watershed Partnership Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Plan. “This is a milestone for us,”

said Donna Beverage, a member of the Union County Board of Commissioners, who helped develop the plan. The passage of the resolution means that it may now be easier to put into effect plans to address issues such as flooding and low streamflow in the late summer. “We hope that it will open doors for improvement projects that will help over the next 50

years,” Beverage said. She added that the resolution indicates that people at the state level value local input. “The state is willing to work with us and recognizes our water needs,” she said. Beverage said that it also shows the state appreciates the different water issues regions face and the steps needed to address them. “One size does not fit all,” she

said. The Upper Grande Ronde Watershed Partnership Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Plan, which was five years in the making, was prepared with the help of local, state and federal agencies, including the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Union County Farm

See, **Water**/Page A6

## Family seeks answers in dog's death

By **ISABELLA CROWLEY**  
The Observer

LA GRANDE — Jacob Moseley couldn't believe what he was seeing. Moseley found his dog, Waylon, bleeding out from a bullet wound on the evening of Sunday, June 19, at Moseley's home by Bearco Loop and the Rendezvous RV Park in La Grande. After trying to get the bleeding under control, Moseley rushed Waylon to a veterinarian, where the dog died.

“Our family is devastated at this loss, especially Jacob, who just lost his best friend,” said Carrie Hayes, Moseley's sister.

Moseley adopted Waylon as a puppy and the pair would have celebrated three years together in August. Waylon was a red heeler — a breed of Australian cattle dog — and Moseley got him from a breeder in Wallowa.

He remembers picking out Waylon as a puppy. Moseley was surrounded by puppies who all wanted attention, but, he said, Waylon just came up to say hello before going off on his own to nap.

“He had this most gentle nature. I never had a dog or been around a dog so gentle and calm,” Moseley said. “He was really well behaved, didn't cause problems, but he did have an issue of getting out and exploring the neighborhood.”

The dog was known to escape the yard from time to time. Hayes said that the neighbors knew and loved Moseley's dog.

The case is open and

See, **Dog**/Page A6



Wyoming quarterback Andrew Peasley (6) hands off during the spring football game on April 30, 2022, in Laramie, Wyoming, at War Memorial Stadium. Peasley, a La Grande High School graduate, completed 12-of-21 passes for 201 yards, two TDs and one interception in leading the Gold Team to a 26-22 victory.

Troy Babbitt/Contributed Photo

## ‘I can do it, too’

La Grande graduate Andrew Peasley adjusting to new school, sets sights on NFL

By **RONALD BOND** • For The Observer

LA GRANDE — The adjustment to the University of Wyoming has, to this point, been smooth for former Utah State quarterback Andrew Peasley.

The former La Grande High School standout transferred from Logan to Laramie in January, staying in the Mountain West Conference but moving to a school where he believes he will have a better chance to

compete for time under center.

“It (came) down to I wanted the best opportunity to fight for a starting job and play football,” he said. “Wyoming is the spot for me.”

He also noted that any trepidation he felt on changing schools but staying in conference was quickly alleviated when he completed his six-hour move and joined the Cowboys.

See, **Peasley**/Page A6



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

Kerry Searles swaths alfalfa hay on a Cornerstone Farms Joint Venture field just north of Joseph on Wednesday, June 22, 2022. It was the year's first cutting of the alfalfa crop.

## Farmers finally cut year's first crop

By **BILL BRADSHAW**  
Wallowa County Chieftain

WALLOWA COUNTY — With the rains apparently done for a while, Wallowa County farmers in late June were making hay while the sun shone, mowing their first cutting of alfalfa across the county. “It looks like we have a really good window toward putting hay up,” said Mark

Butterfield, chairman of the Wallowa County Hay Growers. “I don't think anybody's complaining about extra moisture. It's been a blessing both for the stockgrowers and us.” “It's finally turned into summer,” said Tyler Coppin, who with his father, Mike, has about 1,000 acres in both timothy grass and alfalfa in the Upper Prairie Creek

area. “I just hope the hot weather will last.” Around the county farmers were working to get the hay cut in time to dry before baling. **Short crop** Most hay growers agree the cold, wet spring hindered growth of the hay crop.

See, **Crop**/Page A6

### INDEX

Classified .....B2	Home.....B1	Obituaries.....A5
Comics.....B5	Horoscope....B4	Opinion.....A4
Crossword ....B2	Local.....A2	Region.....A3
Dear Abby....B6	Lottery.....A2	Sudoku.....B5

### WEATHER Full forecast on the back of B section

	<b>Tonight</b> 55 LOW Mainly clear		<b>Wednesday</b> 83/56 A t-storm around
--	--	--	---

### CONTACT US

541-963-3161	Email story ideas to <a href="mailto:news@lagrandeobserver.com">news@lagrandeobserver.com</a> . More contact info on Page A4.
Issue 80	
2 sections, 12 pages	
La Grande, Oregon	

