

MALCOM: Co-defendants sentenced Friday

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prison for the major crimes, and an additional 10 years for the remaining counts. Malcom must also pay \$800 in total fines and register as a sexual offender upon his re-

lease. Neither the victim nor her family were present in the courtroom, though Bunney said they are satisfied with the sentence. Malcom, who has remained in the county jail for more than two years, ap-

peared with his attorney via video conference and apologized for his actions. Two co-defendants in the case, Justin Bedard, 35, and Lori Wickert, 33, have also pleaded guilty to charges and will be sentenced Friday, Jan.

9 in Pendleton. Bedard admitted to rape and using the child for porn, while Wickert admitted to two counts of sexual abuse.

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BABY: Zackariah is first baby of 2015 for Good Shepherd Medical Center

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Year's night," Mills said. "But this morning it was time for him to come." Zackariah did snag the title of first baby of 2015 for Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston, however, and got a hefty bag full of baby gear to show for it. He was sleeping on Friday morning as a photographer snapped photos, his mother rested and her mother kept watch over her newest grandson. Zackariah is Mills' first baby, but she said she already has two dressers full of clothes for his first six months, courtesy of friends

and family who showered her with their sons' old clothing. Mills said she knew ahead of time that she was supposed to be having a boy, but still wasn't a hundred percent sure given her family's history of misleading ultrasounds. "My sister was supposed to be a boy and my brother was supposed to be a girl," she said. Mills said she isn't too nervous about being a new mom given all her experience helping out with her nine nieces and nephews.

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Staff photo by Jade McDowell
Zackariah Trevor Matthias Mills, the first baby born in Hermiston and the second baby born in Umatilla County for 2015, sleeps through a photo shoot just hours after being born.

TECH: Received enough money for 100 iPads and two docking stations

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Michael said the technology allows students to do research for reports and incorporate photos and videos into their final product. They can interact online with professors teaching college classes. They can run simulations — say "your teacher asks you to find out what dimensions a submarine would need to have in order to survive at a certain depth. An application lets you build 3-D objects and run tests to see how they would do in deep water pressure." Sure, you could use a desktop computer, but getting a slot in the computer lab was often a challenge. He decided to do something about this educational pothole. Though he was still a freshman, he devised a plan for a senior project that involved writing grants for enough iPads for everyone in his grade. But first, he had to convince the adults. When Michael described his project to English teacher Elizabeth McIntyre, it wasn't a difficult sell. "We'd been wanting to get more technology into the high school," she said. "He was really compelled to do something."



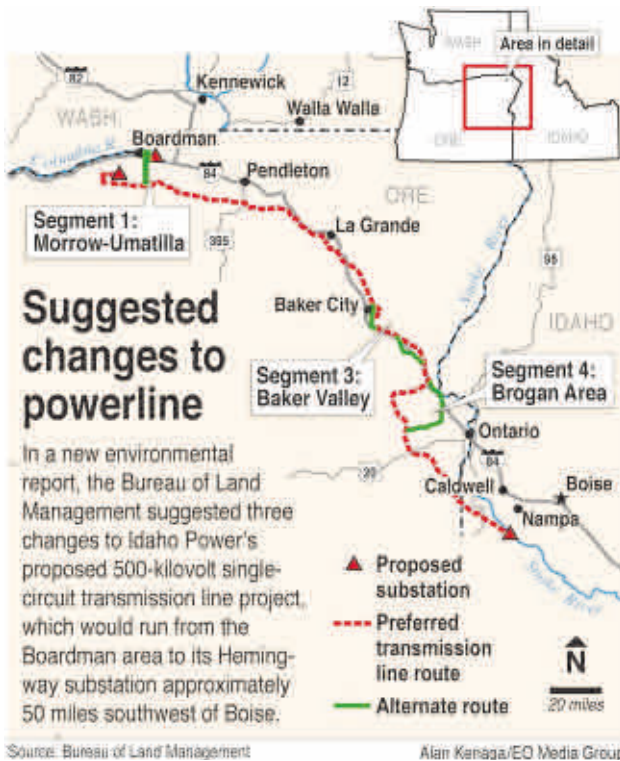
Students can take the iPads home and use them for school work.

"We had full sit-downs with the kids and their parents. This is a \$550 piece of equipment."
— Elizabeth McIntyre, English teacher

When it came to a vote, they supported the iPad. Next, Shafer researched how to write grants, selected two — Wildhorse Foundation and AWERE (Athena-Weston Education and Resource Enhancement) — and spent a couple of months working on applications. "It was strenuous," Shafer said. "I'd never done anything similar to grant writing. Mrs. McIntyre edited each draft. I'd revise. She'd edit. I'd revise." "He did the heavy lifting," McIntyre said. Finally, he sent them off. Last February, he learned he'd gotten the \$24,726 AWERE grant and, in April, the news that Wildhorse had awarded \$9,000 — enough for 100 iPads and two docking stations. "We were ecstatic," Sha-

fer said. "It was a happy moment." The funding would provide iPads for Shafer's class — he's now a sophomore — and the freshman class, too. As far as the juniors and seniors go, Shafer hopes the school will find a way to help them. The rollout this fall was slow. First students only had classroom access to the iPads. Later, it was bumped to 24/7 use and they could take them home. The students signed contracts recognizing the tablets as school property, to care for them, not to cyberbully and to avoid inappropriate websites. "We had full sit-downs with the kids and their parents," McIntyre said. "This is a \$550 piece of equipment." In her classes, McIntyre's students will use the iPads to make documentary videos. As for Shafer, the sophomore has big plans. He will graduate from high school with an online Associate of Arts college degree through the Eastern Promise program. And then... "I want to go into politics and get a juris doctorate in law," Shafer said, pausing. "At Harvard."

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POWER: Public can comment until March 19

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ments and prepare a final environmental document by early 2016. If the power company begins construction in 2018, it could complete the project by 2020. Stephanie McCurdy, a communications specialist with Idaho Power Company, said the utility is simultaneously going through a process with the Oregon Department of Energy to gain approval for the project. The public will have an opportunity to comment in Oregon's process once the utility has completed its application. J.R. Cook, director of a group called the Northeast Oregon Water Association that represents water users in the area, said the route initially proposed by Idaho Power Company would not have much of an impact on irrigated agriculture in the area. But an alternative route proposed by federal agencies in the draft environmental document would cut through valuable agricultural land. "It's irreplaceable," Cook said of irrigated farmland that would be affected.

If you go
Boardman to Hemingway transmission line open houses
When: Jan. 5, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Where: Port of Morrow Riverfront Center, 2 Marine Drive, Boardman
When: Jan. 6, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Where: Convention Center, 1601 Westgate, Pendleton

"We've stressed the fact you can relocate a line, and you can route around this ground." It could be difficult for farmers to convince federal agencies that the transmission line should follow a different route, because the transmission line cannot interfere with activities at the nearby Naval Weapons Systems Training Facility Boardman. However, Cook said he believes it is still possible to design a better option. The public can comment on the draft environmental document until March 19, 2015.

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