

STANFIELD BEATS
UNION 10-0
BASEBALL/1B



Pendleton man
hits \$676,000
jackpot REGION/3A



EAST OREGONIAN

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2015

139th Year, No. 116

WINNER OF THE 2013 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

One dollar

Your Weekend



- **Roots/Americana fiddle music at Arts Center**
- **"The Princess and the Pea" in Irrigon**
- **Bob Baker memorial fundraiser in Lone**

For times and places see **Coming Events, 3A**

Weekend Weather

Fri	Sat	Sun
		
76/48	65/40	67/41

Committee approves education budget

SALEM (AP) — A Democratic budget for Oregon schools is headed for votes in the full House and Senate, likely next week, after the Ways and Means Committee approved the \$7.3 billion spending plan in a party-line vote on Thursday.

The two-year budget proposal would be a 9 percent increase in state aid for schools.

The budget has raised sharply differing predictions about its impact. Republicans and education interests say it fails to keep pace with rising costs and will force many school districts to slash spending. Democrats say their budget isn't ideal, but it would provide enough money for nearly all school districts to keep their current staffing and service levels.

The Democrats promised to devote a portion of any new revenue to schools.

"This budget is built upon the extra billion dollars that we put into last year's budget," said Sen. Rod Monroe, D-Portland. "So yeah, the growth is relatively small, and I hope we can find more. But remember we're building on the mountain we built last year."

The debate has made for unusual allies. Education interests, which are among the top supporters of Democratic campaigns, are seeing their cause championed by Republicans saying other areas of the budget should be reduced to pump more cash into schools.

Scott gets 18 years for violent home invasion

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

A second member of the Umatilla 3 is heading to prison. Caleb Scott, 23, will spend 18 years behind bars for his involvement in the home invasion and assault of the late Joyce Key.

Circuit Judge Charles Luukinen, appearing via video, sentenced the 23-year-old man Thursday morning at the Umatilla County Courthouse,



Scott

Defense attorneys

Pendleton. Dan Wendel of the Oregon Department of Justice handled the proceedings for the state, with Umatilla County District Attorney Dan Primus as co-counsel.

Dean Gushwa represented Scott.

Luukinen said he would sentence Scott according to the deal that led to his pleading guilty on Feb. 20 to first-degree robbery, second-degree kidnapping and first-degree burglary. The judge sentenced Scott to 146 months on the robbery and 70 months on the kidnapping, a total of 18 years. Luukinen said Scott would not be eligible for early release or time off for good behavior, but he would receive credit for spending

about two years in jail already.

Luukinen also sentenced Scott to 22 months for the burglary. That sentence will run concurrent with the other counts. Scott also will have to serve three years probation after prison. Luukinen also waived all of Scott's obligations for fees and fines so he could better pay restitution of \$13,820 to Key's estate.

Joyce Key's son, Gary Key, was

See SCOTT/10A



Clint Sexson, right, uses an electric branding iron to brand a calf as Tyler Potter, center, holds the animal's leg as Jack Taylor looks on Thursday outside of Stanfield. **More photos online at www.eastoregonian.com.**



Mike Taylor puts a growth pellet into a calf's ear Thursday while branding the animals outside of Stanfield.

On the brand-wagon

Branding leaves mark on new calves

By GEORGE PLAVER
East Oregonian

The piercing sizzle comes first, followed by a quick plume of white smoke and the foul smell of burning hair.

Some calves struggle more than others as they are loaded and pinned down onto the branding table at Double M Ranch in Stanfield. Tyler Potter, a seasonal worker on the ranch, grabs each animal's back leg and does his best not to get kicked while Clint Sexson reaches for the iron.

"That buckskin color is about what I want it to be," Sexson says as he presses the electric brander on the calf's right hip. "If I did it any more and a blister pops up, that wouldn't be any good."

It only takes a few seconds before Sexson pulls away and lets the animal go to saunter along the far fence, as if nothing had happened. The process is repeated until all 95 calves in this group are tattooed with the same signature mark — a merging of the let-

See BRANDING/10A

Democrats push for background checks on private gun sales

By JONATHAN J. COOPER
and SHEILA V. KUMAR
Associated Press

SALEM — Oregon Democrats introduced a bill Thursday to require background checks on private firearm sales, setting up a showdown with gun rights advocates that could come as soon as next week.

Gun control supporters have tried unsuccessfully for years to expand Oregon's background-check requirement to nearly all gun sales and transfers. They poured money into key legislative races last year and now face much stronger prospects with expanded Democratic majorities in both the House and Senate.

Oregon would be the eighth state to require universal background checks, according to the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, one of several national groups working on expanding the regulation in Oregon.

See GUNS/10A



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Birdland

A pair of mallard ducks fly over a flock of Canada geese as they graze in a pasture off Stanfield Meadows Road on Thursday west of Stanfield.



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