



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Car flips on interstate in Pendleton

Pendleton paramedics attend to the occupants of a vehicle that was involved in a single-vehicle rollover Monday on Interstate 84 in Pendleton.

ATHENA

City revs up for Hodaka Days

By TAMMY MALGESINI
East Oregonian

Tommy Croft of Team Honda, Ron Pomeroy of Team Bultaco and Preston Petty, an AMA Hall of Fame member and industry innovator, are the celebrity guests during the 16th annual Hodaka Days.

Although it’s been 51 years since the trail bikes and motorcycles were manufactured in Athena, hundreds of Hodaka enthusiasts will make their way to the small Eastern Oregon town for the June 25-28 celebration. Athena City Park serves as celebration central, but activities are held throughout town. In addition, the trail ride starts and ends in Weston. Although several of the events feature only Hodaka or Yamaguchi bikes, the vendor booths and swap meet, auction, poker run and trail ride are open to all makes of motorcycles.

A special raffle to benefit Athena’s Gem Theater restoration project is planned Saturday, June 27 during the awards presentation, raffle and auction — a 1973 Dirt Squirt restored by Greg Watkins and his crew at California Hodaka. Tickets are \$5 each and are only being sold during Hodaka Days for a chance to win the chrome and red ride. The winner doesn’t have to be present to win.

Another highlight of the event is the Ice Cream Social, set for Friday, June



Photo contributed by Wade Quick

Hodaka enthusiasts take to the streets during the 2014 Hodaka Days in Athena. This year’s event is June 25-28.

26 from 7:30-10 p.m. at the Swanson residence, 424 E. College St., Athena. Those in attendance will have an opportunity to visit with other Hodaka enthusiasts and look at some rare Hodaka and PABATCO history. Those planning to attend are encouraged to bring a lawn chair.

Saturday, June 27 offers a full day of fun, including a parade, a swap meet, a bike show, a car show and a silent auction.

Don’t forget to pick up an Iron Man card and get it punched as you participate or volunteer to help in events to earn a Hodaka Club Iron Man patch. To be eligible, participants must participate in at least five activities from events including the poker run, trail ride, parade, health check-up, bike show, observed trial or motocross.

For more information, including a full schedule of events, visit www.hodakadays.org.

GRADUATE: Earned a 3.62 grade point average

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With help from people at the Pendleton Warming Station and Day Center, churches, the hospital, the Salvation Army, the Celebrate Recovery program and a college success program called TRiO, she enrolled at BMCC, hit the books and earned a 3.62 grade point average. She starts an online Eastern Oregon University program this week.

A sense of accomplishment replaces the desperation of those early days.

The Texas native said she ended up on the streets after her marriage failed in 2013. Figuring out the logistics of living was a full-time job.

“I slept in park bathrooms and broke into storage units and construction sites,” Sacco said. “Sometimes I was so scared I’d walk all night.”

She carried her laptop and some clothes in a backpack. She remembers wandering into the old St. Anthony Hospital one frigid night near Christmas.

“It was cold and my back was hurting. At that point, I didn’t know where else to go,” Sacco said. “The people at the hospital — they were having a Christmas party — they gave me something to eat and a courtesy ride to the warming station.”

Sacco almost cried at the warmth — both in temperature and temperament.

“The people there treated me with respect,” she said. “They treated me as a human being.”

Whenever the mercury dropped to freezing, Sacco now knew she had a warm place to sleep. During the day, she could go to the day program at the First Meth-



Contributed photo

Carlin Sacco hugs her daughter, Zoey, 5, after graduating from BMCC earlier this month. Sacco overcame homelessness and other challenges to earn her two-year transfer degree.

odist Church. There was Wi-Fi there and she started applying for financial aid. In spring of 2014, she started classes at BMCC.

For a while, she continued to camp. She brushed her teeth in the restroom at Wal-Mart or Safeway, got a cup of coffee and hiked to school. Her sister-in-law gave her money to rent a locker, so she locked up her computer and books for the night. She did her homework on campus and then walked back to her campsite. Eventually, she could afford a tiny apartment.

Allison Sevrin, Sacco’s student success coach and TRiO advisor, marveled at the student’s drive.

“Even through all of the hardships in Carlin’s life, she has shown great pride in not only completing her education at BMCC, but excelling in all the courses she has taken,” Sevrin said.

TRiO is a federally funded program to help first-generation, low-income or disabled students earn baccalaureate degrees. Sacco stopped by the TRiO office almost daily for training, pep talks, advice or

just a peanut butter sandwich or a cookie.

The success finishing her transfer degree is sweet, but she deflects the bulk of the credit. So many others helped, she said. The man who noticed her worn-out shoes as she panhandled and bought her a new pair. A couple who paid for a night at a hotel. The warming shelter volunteer who helped repair her torn tent. The college advisor who talked her out of quitting school last October. The people at her church, the First Assembly of God, who gave her furnishings and kitchenware when she finally moved into her little apartment. And on and on.

“I am grateful,” she said. “Where would I be without all those people who helped me?”

She gives most of the credit, though, to God.

“Sometimes I wasn’t sure how I was going to get through,” she said. “I just had faith in God.”

Sacco still doesn’t have a cushy existence. She has no car, so she walks to her job at Grocery Outlet. She has work to do to regain custody of her children, including therapy sessions. Having survived homelessness, however, she feels gratitude for small things such as bathrooms and doors that lock.

Currently Sacco is majoring in politics and economics with a minor in interdisciplinary rhetoric and writing. Someday, she hopes to affect policy.

“I want to pay it forward,” she said. “I want to advocate for women and families and the homeless.”

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HERMISTON

Collision leads to arrest on DUI, assault charges

By SEAN HART
EO Media Group

A 20-year-old Hermiston man was charged for drunk driving after crashing into another vehicle Friday night.

William Paul Breckheimer was arrested at about 9:38 p.m. near the intersection of West Theater Lane and Prickly Pear Drive in Hermiston, according to an officer’s report provided by Hermiston Police Chief Jason Edmiston.

Breckheimer was charged with driving under the influence of intoxicants, third-degree assault, second-degree criminal mischief and minor in possession of alcohol and was lodged in the Umatilla County Jail on \$16,000 bail.

According to the report, Breckheimer was found unconscious in his 1992 silver Jeep Cherokee after crashing into the back of a 2003 white Subaru Legacy driven by Sean Murray, who suffered a large laceration to the back of his head. Edmiston said Murray, 24, of Heppner, was taken to the Heppner hospital by his family.

The report states when Breckheimer awoke, he appeared intoxicated and became combative when citizens tried to help him. He was detained for his safety in the back of a Hermiston Police Department vehicle, but slammed his head into the divider

between the front and back seats, causing a 1.5-inch laceration on his forehead.

While being moved to the medical vehicle, Breckheimer shouted obscenities and flung his head from side to side, getting blood on officers and medical personnel, according to the report. He was transported to Good Shepherd Medical Center for treatment and evaluation.

The report states Breckheimer later consented to a blood draw at the hospital and a Breathalyzer test at HPD, which showed a blood alcohol content of .13 percent. He was processed and transported to the jail without further incident.

Edmiston said the assault charge was related to injuring another individual while driving drunk. The criminal mischief charge, he said, was related to a wall that was damaged during the wreck and the clean-up required on the police vehicle.

Officers are trained to wear protective equipment, Edmiston said, and none of Breckheimer’s bodily fluids entered their systems. He said, when that occurs, the officers must be treated at the hospital with medication that makes them sick, similar to chemotherapy. An HPD officer was poked with a used hypodermic needle last week and is still recovering from the required medication, he said.



Breckheimer

TAXES: Bill would lift a cap on cigar taxes

Continued from 1A

some particular outcomes in mind, and also balancing the need to pay for them,” said House Speaker Tina Kotek, D-Portland.

Several Republicans objected to marrying tax credits, which decrease revenue, with tax increases in a single bill. The move allows Democrats to get around a requirement that revenue-raising bills be approved by a supermajority of the House and Senate. While Democrats have the majority of both chambers, they’d need to gather support from at least one House Republican to advance the tax increases on their own.

“If this is constitutional, that part of the constitution has no meaning,” said Rep. John Davis, a Wilsonville Republican who serves on the Revenue panel.

The debate over taxes highlighted a simmering disagreement between Democrats in the House and the more conservative Senate. Sen. Mark Hass, a Beaverton Democrat who leads the Senate’s revenue committee, sounded a pessimistic tone about the bill’s chances in that chamber.

“We’re going to try our best to find some middle ground, but I’m not sure the majority of the Senate will vote for a tax increase,” Hass said. “I just can’t say.”

The House bill is esti-

mated to raise nearly \$50 million in new revenue over the next two-year budget cycle. It would eliminate a tax credit that helps people pay for long-term care insurance. Kotek said it’s used primarily by people who would buy the coverage anyway.

It also would lift a cap on cigar taxes. Oregon taxes cigars at 65 percent of the wholesale price, up to 50 cents per cigar. Lifting the cap is estimated to generate more than \$5 million a year. It would affect nearly all premium cigars sold in Oregon, said Paul Cosgrove, a lobbyist for the Cigar Association of America.

“It’s, generally speaking, a bunch of small retailers and small wholesalers,” Cosgrove said.

The bill also would prohibit businesses from using tax credits to offset the corporate minimum tax, which voters increased in the controversial Measure 67 special election in 2010. The corporate minimum is generally paid by businesses that are unprofitable or high revenue but low margins, like grocery stores and car dealers.

The bill also targets a provision that allows Oregon taxpayers to subtract their federal tax liability from their income when calculating state taxes, up to \$6,350. The cap typically grows with inflation, but the bill would cap it for six years.



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