

# EAST OREGONIAN SPORTS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022

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A10

## Shriners back on schedule

By LISA BRITTON  
Baker City Herald

BAKER CITY — Events for this year's East-West All-Star Shrine Game will be back to normal — the normal of 2019.

The game was canceled in 2020, and 2021 was hampered by restrictions that kept players from visiting Baker City prior to the game.

This year, for the 69th edition, traditional events are coming back.

The Shriners are encouraging the community to take part in the festivities — especially a barbecue on the evening of Thursday, Aug. 4, that brings players, coaches, co-captains, queens and cheerleaders to Geiser-Pollman Park.

"We're back with that program," said Randy Guyer, a member of the Baker City Shrine Club.

The community barbecue begins at 5 p.m. in the park with speeches, including a talk by Travis Bloomer, who played in a past Shrine game and whose son, Gauge, was

selected for this year's game, along with fellow Baker Bulldog and 2022 graduate, Alex Ritter. Another BHS grad, Alexis Conant, will be a cheerleader for the East squad.

Both queens are from the Baker City area. Hannah Cartwright is the East Queen, and Poppy Ann Jones is the West Queen.

Cost for dinner is \$25 a plate.

### Background

This annual Shrine game is a fundraiser for the Shriners Children's Hospital in Portland.

Since its inception, the game has raised more than \$2.9 million up to 2021.

It moved to Baker City in the mid-1970s.

In 2021, the game and associated fundraisers raised \$47,000 for the hospital.

Guyer said the volunteer hours and community support help make the Baker City event one of the most successful fundraising games for the hospital.

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## HERMISTON HIGH SCHOOL



Yasser Marte/East Oregonian

Omar Medina, the Hermiston girls' head soccer coach, poses for a photo Friday, July 29, 2022, at Hermiston high school. This will be Medina's sixth year coaching soccer at the high school, but first as the head coach.

## PITCH PERFECT

### Medina steps up to coach girls soccer team

By ANNIE FOWLER  
East Oregonian

HERMISTON — Omar Medina knows what he's getting into as he takes over the Hermiston High School girls soccer program.

Hermiston School District hired Medina last week. He spent several years as the Bulldogs' junior varsity coach and was a full-time varsity assistant in 2021.

"The Mid-Columbia Conference is tough, for sure," Medina said. "It has been a difficult few years. This past year, I think we showed we had the ability to compete. We have a pretty small senior class, but we have a good core of young players that have been together for quite awhile. I'm really

looking forward to see how the girls respond this season."

Medina's familiarity with the program made him a good fit for the job.

*"COACHES MADE A BIG IMPACT IN MY LIFE. IT'S NICE TO GIVE BACK IN THE SAME WAY."*

— Omar Medina, Hermiston girls soccer coach

"Omar has had a huge impact on our student body at Hermiston High School, as both a success coordinator and a social worker," Hermiston

Athletic Director Larry Usher said in a news release. "We are confident that these positive relationships will continue to the soccer pitch and create great experiences for our athletes."

Medina was hired by the school district in 2017 as a success coordinator, and he works as a social worker at the high school.

"This is my third year as the social worker," Medina said. "As a social worker, I'm there to help all kids who are struggling or their families. If they need insurance, are losing their housing or who need food. I also help with depression, grief and loss. It's tough, but I love what I get to do, and that the school district has this position. All kids have access to me."

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## RODEO

## Mahoney finishes 16th at NHSFR in steer wrestling

By ANNIE FOWLER  
East Oregonian

GILLETTE, Wyo. — Heppner's Blane Mahoney finished 16th in steer wrestling at the National High School Finals Rodeo from July 17-23.

Mahoney took down his steer in 5.16 seconds in the first round to finish 14th out of 150 competitors. In the second round, he clocked a 5.01 to place seventh for a combined time of 10.17 second to put him second in the call bak position for the short go (finals).

Mahoney, who won the state steer wrestling title, will continue his rodeo career at Blue Mountain Community College.

Alyson Terry of Hermiston, who won the state pole

bending title, finished 17th at nationals out of a field of 182 riders.

She had a time of 20.689 seconds on her first run, and a 20.133 on her second to place 10th in the average heading into the finals.

Lauryn Riney of Milton-Freewater, who was second at state in pole bending, finished 25th overall.

Pendleton's Georgia Lieuallen, who was second at state in barrel racing, and third in pole bending, finished 31st among 191 barrel racers. In pole bending, she had pole penalties on both runs.

Stanfield's Gator Goodrich, who finished fourth at state in tie-down roping, finished 50th overall at nationals. He had a time of 11.23 seconds on his first run, but broke the barrier on his second run for a time of 23.41.



Mahoney

## TRACK AND FIELD

## Young second in shot put at Junior Olympics

By ANNIE FOWLER  
East Oregonian

SACRAMENTO — Hermiston's Bailey Young picked up her second All-American honor, this time in the shot put, at the USA Track & Field National Junior Olympic Championships on Wednesday, July 27, at Hornet Stadium at Sacramento State University.

Young, who earlier in the week placed seventh in the hammer throw, unleashed a throw of 45 feet, 9/4 inches to place second in the 17-18 division of the shot put. The mark came on her final throw of the competition.

Lauren St. Peters of Texas won the event with a personal

best mark of 46-0 1/2.

On July 28, Young placed 12th in the discus with a mark of 122-1.

The top eight in each event earn All-American honors.

Young will throw in college at Eastern Washington University.

In the 17-18 men's discus, Hermiston's Caden Hottman finished fourth on July 28 with a toss of 174-2, which came on his third of six throws.

Michael Pinkney of New York, who has signed to throw at UCLA, won the event with a throw of 202-8.

Hottman, who will throw at Washington State University, placed second in the hammer earlier in the week to earn All-American honors in both events.



Young

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