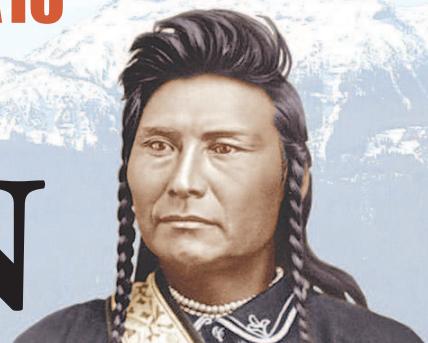




DRAGON BOAT CLUB GETTING READY. **A10**

WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN



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BOWLBY BASH GALLERY ONLINE AT WWW.WALLOWA.COM

Scot Heisel/Chieftain
David Carpenter of
Enterprise won the
People's Choice award for
this whimsical entry.

KINGS OF THE HILL



DOWNHILL RACE A HIT AGAIN



Eventual winner Nathan Curtis cruises downhill during one of the preliminary heats.

Scot Heisel/Chieftain

Nathan Curtis takes trophy

David Carpenter wins People's Choice

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County chieftain

Always a bridesmaid, never the bride. That might be what Jorge Aguilar, Jr. is thinking this week. Aguilar, who exercised exceptional visioning technique in the build-up to the Bowlby Bash Downhill Races on Sat-

urday, saw his dream crushed for the second year in a row as Nathan Curtis and his stripped-down Main Street Motors Flash whipped across the finish line and put in a faster time than the Texaco Service Station sponsored The Bandito could manage.

See BASH, Page A6

Rodeo grounds arbor on track

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

Anyone who plans to attend the Friendship Feast hosted by Native American tribes during the Chief Joseph Days rodeo can look forward to the event taking place in much improved digs. That's because the CJD board decided it was time to for an upgrade the old arbor that sheltered the feast, which consisted of a tarp secured to a log frame.

The arbor is a sacred place used by tribes to celebrate their heritage by feasting, dancing and other ceremonial rites. Native Americans have shared these traditions with the public for nearly 30 years

during the CJD Rodeo with a Friendship Feast and dancing on Saturday.

CJD board member John Hillock said the decision to replace the arbor was easy for the CJD committee in charge of the project.

"We thought this was a sign of solidarity with the tribes and solidarity with the community — that we want to do good things in the community."

Local engineer Ralph Swinehart designed the new 76-by- 52 foot structure. Vertical steel beams connected by horizontal laminate beams and rafters form the frame of the structure.



Steve Tool/Chieftain

The nearly completed roof of the new arbor at the rodeo grounds in Joseph. Note the center steel post now clothed with lumber.

See ARBOR, Page A7



Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain
Enterprise Police Chief Joel Fish wears the mourning band over his badge.

Unity in wake of tragedy

Local, state law
enforcement
honoring slain
Dallas officers

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

All sworn officers in Oregon have been asked to wear mourning bands on their badges from now until the day of the funerals of the officers who were killed by a sniper in Dallas on Thursday.

Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) made the request and issued a press release praising Dallas law enforcement for their work that night as they policed a peaceful protest against the recent killings of black men by police officers in Louisiana and Minnesota.

"We understand the risks and challenges faced by law enforcement officers on a daily basis ..." Chief Geoff Spalding, President Oregon Association Chiefs of Police, wrote. "All Oregon law enforcement officers took an oath to safeguard the citizens of the communities they serve. We want to thank Oregonians for taking time to express their support. ... We want to thank the citizens of Oregon for working with us in partnership and unity to keep our communities safe."

See UNITY, Page A6

Delisting challenge reinstated

By George Plaven
EO Media Group

The fight over Oregon's wolf protections is heading back to court.

The state Court of Appeals has reinstated a legal challenge filed by conservation groups Cascadia Wildlands, Oregon Wild and the Center for Biological Diversity, which argue wolves were prematurely removed from the Oregon Endangered Species List.

In their challenge, the groups assert the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife did not follow the best available science in its recommendation to delist wolves last year — nor was the evidence independently reviewed. The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission voted 4-2 in favor of delisting on Nov. 9.

The groups initially filed the challenge on Dec. 30.

See WOLF, Page A7



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