



CHIEF JOSEPH DAYS SPILLS 'N' THRILLS

ABOVE Saddle Bronc rider Joaquin Real of Santa Paula, Calif., gets an airborne dismount at the end of his 8 second ride Friday aboard Alabama Hannah. Real scored only 35 points on this ride because the mare stopped just out of the chute before bucking across the arena. His re-ride netted Real 75 points, good for third in the go-round (Ellen Bishop/For the Chieftain).

RIGHT Sawyer Grohs waves the American flag from the back of the float of the Trouthaven Resort on the shores of Wallowa Lake in Friday's Chief Joseph Days Junior Parade. The business has been operating for nearly 70 years. This was their first-ever entry in the parade (Paul Wahl/Chieftain).



PHOTOS ON PAGES 7 & 10 ★ MORE PHOTOS ON FACEBOOK.COM/WALLOWA
★ PHOTO GALLERIES AT WALLOWA.COM

Methodists giving camp land back to Nez Perce

For more than 90 years, the Oregon-Idaho Conference of The United Methodist Church has owned the Wallowa Lake Camp outside of Joseph.

The camp encompasses 52 acres, including 1.5 acres of Wallowa River property with the potential to be restored as sockeye salmon spawning habitat.

During a ceremony 1 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 1, at the camp, 84522 Church Lane, tribal leaders will join with United Methodist officials to celebrate the return of this 1.5 acres of land to the Nez Perce tribe by transferring the property deed.

See LAND, Page A9

Biomass called key to county's economic future

Plant operators seeking additional partnerships

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

Businesses like Integrated Biomass Solutions of Wallowa are the key to a strong economic future.

That was the determination after the July 27 meeting and tour of the facility with U.S. Rep. Greg Walden and State Rep. Greg Barreto.

County commissioner Todd Nash and Nils Christoffersen, executive director of Wallowa Resources, were also on hand to discuss development of wood-related projects.

Owners and operators David and Jesse Schmidt conducted the tour, pointed out improvements and told the story of their growing success.

See BIOMASS, Page A9

Walden to debate McLeod-Skinner

Joseph encounter was apparently the ticket

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

Jamie McLeod-Skinner, the democratic candidate for Oregon's 2nd District U.S. Representative seat had a problem.

Her staff couldn't seem to connect with Republican Greg Walden's staff about the possibility of the two candidates debating before the 2018 mid-term elections.

McLeod Skinner ended up taking matters into her own hands when she realized both candidates had a spot in the Chief

See WALDEN, Page A9

WOLF DEPREDACTIONS CONTINUE

Harl Butte pack blamed for latest attacks in county

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

Less than a year after a string of 2017 depredations and the harvest of four wolves in August 2017, the Harl Butte wolf pack claimed another confirmed depredation in the reaches of the upper Imnaha.

The depredation occurred on a U.S. Forest Service grazing allotment held by the Marr Flat Grazing Association.

On July 22, a dead 225-pound calf was discovered by a permittee of the grazing allotment. Owners reported seeing two wolves in the vicinity just before the discovery of the carcass. The wolves partially ate the calf, with its right shoulder, abdomen and hindquarters damaged.



Photo courtesy USFWS, William Campbell

A lone wolf can disperse up to 500 miles, looking for space that does not have an existing wolf pack. Another wolf from Oregon has been seen in Northern California.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife investigated the depredation the same day.

See ATTACKS, Page A16

Committee determines payments to ranchers for wolf depredation

Reimbursement rate is variable

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

When wolves returned to Wallowa County in the early 2000s, ranchers absorbed the cost when one of their livestock became dinner.

As the only county in the state that harbored a permanent wolf population, leaders decided something needed to be done.

See WOLVES, Page A16

