



Baker's Zack Schwin drives to the basket during Tuesday's comeback win over Emmett, Idaho

Baker City Herald

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QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Sean Benson of Baker City.

Sports, 5A

LOS ANGELES — The Trail Blazers cruised to a 15-point lead in the first quarter and were up by 18 early in the fourth. Then things got wild.

They withstood a late rally by the Clippers to win 131-127 on Monday night after Damian Lillard scored 22 of his 39 points in a dominant third period.

It was Portland's first win on the road since Nov. 20 after dropping six in a row.

Sports, 5A

EUGENE (AP) — A matinee start seemed to catch the wrong team off its game with no excuses.

Fortunately for Oregon, there was enough that went right between falling behind by eight points early and giving up 13 straight at the end for the Ducks to claim a season-high fourth consecutive win.

Victor Bailey Jr. scored 16 points in his first start and Oregon finished a sweep of its four-game homestand by outlasting Florida A&M 71-64 on Tuesday.

BRIEFING

Baker Heritage Museum open Dec. 26-29

The Baker Heritage Museum, 2480 Grove St., will be open daily from Dec. 26 through Dec. 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Admission is \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors and military members, and free for those 12 and younger.

Community Christmas Eve service at BHS

A community Christmas Eve service is planned for Dec. 24 at 6 p.m. at the Baker High School auditorium, 2500 E St.

Student art show opening reception Jan. 4 at Crossroads

The opening artist reception for the annual student art show at Crossroads Carnegie Art Center is set for Jan. 4 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Crossroads, 2020 Auburn Ave. The art exhibit will run from Jan. 4-26, and the gallery is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WEATHER

Today

42 / 34



Mostly cloudy

Thursday

42 / 29



Mostly cloudy

Halfway Rancher Promoting Workshop On Ranching Successfully In Wolf Country

Living With Wolves



Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife photo

A wolf from the Snake River Pack passed a remote camera in eastern Wallowa County on Dec. 4, 2014.

By Jayson Jacoby
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Shella DelCurto's despair, after a spring when she wondered whether her family's Baker County ranch could survive the arrival of wolves, has been replaced by optimism about the future.

For Shella and her husband, Barry, who run cattle in the Pine Valley near Halfway, late summer and fall constituted a sort of crash course into the biology of wolves.

The couple, who lost a valuable calf to a wolf attack this spring, traveled to Montana and to Pendleton to attend workshops about ranching in wolf country.

They came home with knowledge, to be sure.

But Shella DelCurto said that wasn't the most important thing they gleaned from their travels.

"It's given us hope," she said. "That's the biggest thing. We look at wolves now as another challenge we have to work around."

DelCurto is so enthusiastic about what she learned that she has spent much of this fall raising money to make possible a two-day workshop in Halfway on Jan. 10-11.

Hilary and Andrew Anderson, third-generation ranchers from Montana who deal not only with wolves but also with grizzly bears and other preda-

"It's given us hope. That's the biggest thing. We look at wolves now as another challenge we have to work around."

— **Shella DelCurto, Baker County rancher who touts tactics designed to reduce wolf attacks on cattle**

tors, will talk about the ranching techniques that so impressed DelCurto during the four-day workshop she and her husband attended in Montana in September.

"These are people who are living the situation, day in and day out," DelCurto said. "They grew up with wolves — we didn't. They found a way to survive, and to improve profitability. That's the bottom line."

DelCurto said that although she and her husband learned a variety of tactics to reduce the risk of losing cattle to wolves, the core lesson seemed at first counterintuitive to her.

"Before, we just focused on the wolves," she said. "But the idea is that you focus on your cattle, not on the wolves."

Specifically, DelCurto said the Andersons urge ranchers to train their cattle to move in larger herds rather than to scatter.

Wolves are less likely to attack a group of cattle than, say, a lone calf

Wolf Workshop

- Jan. 10-11, 2019, Halfway Lions Hall
- Cost, \$50 per person, includes both days, two lunches and one dinner
- To register email www.unitedcommunitypartners.org/strategic-ranching. Seating is limited, and registration is required by Jan. 5.

that has wandered away from the herd, DelCurto said.

Keeping cattle in bigger groups has other benefits, she said.

Large herds are easier for ranchers or their hired range riders to track, for one thing. That's especially valuable for the DelCurtos, who run the ranch by themselves and rarely employ range riders.

When ranchers see more of their cattle on a regular basis they're more likely to find animals that are sick or injured early enough to attend to them, and potentially prevent a minor problem from becoming fatal, she said.

The herding technique can also improve the quality and amount of forage, DelCurto said.

See **Wolves** / Page 2A

Gina Perkins Published The Weekly Paper From 2013 Until July 2016

Publisher hopes to revive Record-Courier

■ But owner of a former rival paper threatens legal action to block publication

By Jayson Jacoby
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Gina Perkins, owner and publisher of The Record-Courier, a longtime weekly newspaper in Baker County that closed in July 2016, would like to resume publication on a monthly basis, but her former publishing rival is threatening to take legal action to prevent that.

Perkins wrote in a Dec. 14

post on her Facebook page, "Good News, Baker County," that "My decision to begin publishing the paper again is based on my passion and love for writing and the fact I know people have missed reading the Record-Courier."

Perkins wrote in an email to the Herald that the newspaper would be named the Bar One Haines Record and would be distributed for free.

(Bar One is the cattle brand Perkins and her husband, Lynn, registered, and the couple included the brand logo on the masthead of the newspaper after they bought it in 2013. Haines Record is the original name of a paper started in that town in 1901. Charles Brinton combined the Haines Record and the North Powder News in 1928 into the Record-Courier,

and his family owned the newspaper until selling it to the Perkinses in 2013.)

Meanwhile, Kerry McQuisten of Baker City, whose weekly Baker County Press no longer publishes, but has an online presence, is contesting the Perkinses' ability to legally publish a newspaper.

See **Publish** / Page 3A

County sells part of lime plant

By Casey Crowley
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Baker County has sold the first parcel on the property near Huntington that included the lime plant demolished in a \$520,000 cleanup this spring.

On Monday the county commissioners approved the sale of 82 acres to Randy Joseph of Sumpter Valley.

Joseph, who owns property north of the county parcel and also operates a wind farm nearby, will pay the county \$21,220.

Joseph had been leasing part of the parcel as a communication site for his wind farm.

The property Joseph is buying includes the Dixie-Lime School. He said he wants to preserve the structure, which is the main reason he bought the property. He doesn't have any other plans for the parcel.

Joseph said the school has suffered from a lack of maintenance. Its roof leaks and it has missing doors and windows. There's even a tree growing inside the building.

He said he plans to fix the roof and board up the windows and doors.

See **Property** / Page 3A

Winds usher in record-setting warmth

The gusty winds that pelted south-facing windows with rain on Tuesday also blew record-setting warmth into Baker County.

The temperature reached 48 degrees at the Baker City Airport, the highest ever recorded on Dec. 18.

The previous record high for the date was 46, set in 1979.

Dec. 18 has the distinction of having the chilliest record high temperature of any day at the airport. The next-lowest record high is 47 degrees, on Dec. 20.

The record high temperature for today, Dec. 19, is 55 degrees, and the daily record highs for the rest of December are 51 or warmer on every day except the 20th (47) and 30th (49).

TODAY
Issue 97, 24 pages

Business.....1B & 2B
Calendar.....2A
Classified.....4B-8B

Comics.....3B
Community News.....3A
Crossword.....6B & 7B

Dear Abby.....10B
Horoscope.....5B & 7B
Letters.....4A

Lottery Results.....2A
News of Record.....3A
Opinion.....5A

Senior Menus.....2A
Sports.....5A
Weather.....10B

FRIDAY — BAKER GIRLS BASKETBALL AT VALE TOURNAMENT



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