

Baker City Herald

March 25, 2019

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QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Barbara Stanley of Baker City.

Sports, 5A

CORVALLIS — Following Oregon State's nail-biting overtime win against Boise State to open the NCAA Tournament, Beavers coach Scott Rueck stuck around on the court for a few moments to sign a ball passed to him by a pair of kids.

"Did you think we would win?" Rueck asked them.

The boys said yes and the coach smiled — but it was oh-so close.

Mikayla Pivec had 20 points and 12 rebounds and the fourth-seeded Beavers withstood a major scare from the No. 13 Broncos for an 80-75 overtime victory.

BRIEFING

Money being raised to buy rings for BHS girls hoops

There is a community-wide fundraising effort to help purchase state championship rings for the Baker girls basketball team. If you would like to donate, you can drop off your contribution at Lew Bros. Les Schwab tires or mail to Baker Girls Hoops, P.O. Box 593. Any amount is appreciated.

WEATHER

Today

55 / 39



Spotty showers late

Tuesday

55 / 33



Mostly cloudy

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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Haines Sixth-Graders Visit Goat Farm at Union

Goofing With Goats



Lisa Britton / For The Baker City Herald

Taleana Pugel delights in holding a baby goat at the Grande Ronde Goat Dairy. She and her fellow sixth-graders from Haines Elementary visited the Union dairy on March 20 to learn about the operation.

By Lisa Britton

For the Baker City Herald

UNION — Katherine Gentry had her eye on the black baby goat, and after 10 minutes of cuddling the kid in her arms she settled on a name.

"I'll call him Richard," she said.

Unfortunately, Gentry had to release the baby back into the pen, as did her fellow sixth-grade classmates who seemed quite smitten with the babies.

(Teacher Annetta Evans joked about checking backpacks on the bus to ensure no baby goats were smuggled home.)

On March 20, the sixth-grade class from Haines Elementary School visited Grande Ronde Goat Dairy in Union.

The business is run by Stephanie Rovey, who grew up in Illinois.

As she looks across her herd of 800 goats, she smiles at how it all began.

"This was a 4-H project," she said.

Rovey, 40, got her first dairy goat at age 12.

"My dad thought it would last two or three years. He was wrong."

She earned a degree in animal science at the University of Illinois, then took her goats south when she entered a master's program at the University of Arizona.

"Everywhere I've moved, I brought my goats with me," she said.

Her herd was smaller then, about 10 or 12.

She and her husband, Byron, moved to Union in 2005. In addition to the goats, they plant 2,800 acres in row crops (sunflowers, triticale, alfalfa, sugar beets, and potatoes).

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Lisa Britton / For The Baker City Herald

Stephanie Rovey has a herd of 800 goats at her Union dairy.



Lisa Britton / For The Baker City Herald

Haines sixth-grader Ryan Garrick gives attention to a curious goat during a visit to the Grande Ronde Goat Dairy at Union.

Bill could affect county

By Casey Crowley

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A bill in the Oregon Legislature could cause the Baker County Road Department to replace about 40 of its on-road vehicles in the next 10 years.

House Bill 2007 would require that all medium-duty and heavy-duty trucks with diesel engines registered in Oregon have an engine from the model year 2010 or newer.

Vehicle owners would have until Jan. 1, 2029, to update their fleets under the bill.

County Roadmaster Jeff Smith says that only four of the county's 40-plus trucks would comply with the bill if it took effect now. In total, the road department has 120 vehicles and at least 40 of them would be affected by the current version of the bill.

The bill is in the House Committee for Energy and Environment. On Tuesday and Thursday there were public hearings to discuss the bill in Salem.

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County to get new grader

By Casey Crowley

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On Wednesday, Baker County commissioners approved the purchase of a new grader for \$294,157.

The county's road department will purchase the 2018 Caterpillar 12M3 Motor Grader from Western States Equipment. The purchase of the vehicle was enabled by House Bill 2017, which has stabilized the road department's funding.

The county received three other bids for the purchase with the prices ranging from about \$330,000 to \$360,000. The county purchased another grader last year for almost the exact same price. Prior to that the county hadn't purchased a grader since 2002.

The new vehicle is more cost-efficient than the one it's replacing.

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TODAY

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WEDNESDAY — GO! MAGAZINE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE