



In LOCAL, 8A
Children's Theater returns

Baker City Herald

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QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Mark Ruple of Baker City.

Oregon, 3A

BEND — With financial backing from unnamed Bend residents, an Oregon newspaper company hopes to outbid two others for The Bulletin and Redmond Spokesman.

EO Media Group, publisher of 11 newspapers from the Wallowas to the Oregon Coast, is offering \$2.5 million for Bend's daily newspaper and its weekly sister publication in Redmond, according to a notice filed Monday in U.S. District Court of Oregon.

Sports, 7A

MILTON-FREEWATER — The Mac-Hi football team has had enough of league play — at least for the time being.

This season, the Pioneers are breaking free of the Greater Oregon League in favor of playing independently. They'll say goodbye to league standings, a shot at the 4A state title, and their former GOL rivals starting this fall.

It was a decision that was made after the conclusion of their most recent season, in which they went without a win — 0-8 overall and 0-6 in the league. That record saw them finish fourth, behind Baker, Ontario, and the league champions in La Grande.

WEATHER

Today

81 / 42



Mostly sunny

Thursday

91 / 52



Mostly sunny

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

The space below will be blank on issues delivered or sold from boxes. The space is for a postage label for issues that are mailed.

Wildfire Season Quiet So Far, But Danger Is Increasing

It's Heating Up



U.S. Forest Service photo

Fire crews doused a small lightning-sparked fire near Sumpter on Sunday.

By Jayson Jacoby

jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

The fire season has been more fizzle than flame so far in Northeastern Oregon, but Joel McCraw doesn't expect the tranquility to last.

"Our fire danger ratings are starting to creep up with the hotter, drier weather," McCraw, a fire management officer for

the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest's Whitman District, said on Monday afternoon.

Tuesday's high temperature of 99 at the Baker City Airport was the hottest this year, eclipsing Monday's 97.

And only a trace of rain has fallen at the airport during July.

Overall July has been a bit cooler than usual, however.

Through Monday the average high temperature at the Airport was 84.6 degrees.

The long-term average high for July is 85.2. Last July the average high was 91.8, the second-hottest since record-keeping started at the airport in 1943.

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Council agrees to buy used ambulance

By Samantha O'Conner

soconner@bakercityherald.com

The Baker City Council on Tuesday authorized the Fire Department to buy a used ambulance to replace a 22-year-old vehicle that Fire Chief John Clark said is unreliable.

Councilors voted 6-0 to use some of the \$90,000 allocated in this fiscal year's budget to buy a 2012 Ford F-450 ambulance that Clark said will be available in early September.

He estimated the cost at \$45,000 to \$65,000.

Councilor Randy Schiewe was absent Tuesday.

In making the motion to buy the used ambulance, Councilor Doni Bruland said she wants to delay any decision on ordering a second ambulance, this one a new model, until the city finds out if it receives a Leo Adler grant for that purpose.

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Murder suspect could return to Washington soon

By Jayson Jacoby

jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

The Oregon man who was arrested in Baker City on July 8 and is accused of murdering a man in Walla Walla, Washington, remains in the Baker County Jail but he is likely to be extradited soon to Washington.

Colby James Hedman, 23, is being held on \$1.1 million bail — \$1 million on the Washington murder charges and \$100,000 for a variety of charges in Baker County, District Attorney Matt Shirtcliff said.

Both are full bail, Shirtcliff said, meaning Hedman, who police said is a transient whose last known address was in Heppner, would have to post the full amount to be released.

Shirtcliff said the Walla Walla County District Attorney's Office has started the process to extradite Hedman to face first-degree murder charges there.

Hedman is accused of killing Kyle Jordan Martz, 35, of Walla Walla.

See Suspect / Page 6A

Globetrotting and goats

■ Three Baker City residents traveled to Uganda to help residents start a goat herd

By Samantha O'Conner

soconner@bakercityherald.com

Mary Andersen has raised goats for 20 years in Baker City, and she decided to take her knowledge halfway across the world to help people in Uganda start their own self-sustaining dairy goat farm.

Andersen and Billie McClure, who had traveled to Africa before, invited Andersen to go along. They, along with Dallas Hardesty, who will be a senior at the Baker Web Academy, left

June 4 and returned to Baker City July 4.

Andersen needed to raise \$4,000 for the trip, so she wrote a support letter to go out with her church's annual family newsletter to ask for help.

"And my gosh, the funds started rolling in," Andersen said. "I had one person make an anonymous donation through our church for a thousand dollars."

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S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Mary Andersen of Baker City talks about her experiences in Uganda.



TODAY
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FRIDAY — HIKING OFF TRAIL OFFERS FRESH PERSPECTIVES