

MARCH

■ High Temperature: 65, on the 21st

• Low Temperature: 11, on the 4th

• Total Precipitation: 1.17 (avg.: .81)

The History Makers



The Baker girls basketball team, including Sydney Keller, center, and Jayme Ramos, holding ball, celebrate their state championship Saturday at Forest Grove High School. The Bulldogs beat Marist 51-48.

By Mike Weber
For the Baker City Herald

MARCH 11 — The Baker girls basketball team did something Saturday night that no previous Bulldogs girls squad had done.

Baker outlasted Marist 51-48 to claim the Class 4A state championship.

The historic achievement added to the team's list of accomplishments in a season that was one blemish from perfection.

Baker finished with a 25-1 record, winning the final 19 games after its lone loss, 61-46 at Burns on Dec. 15.

"We're just like one big family and I knew this team was capable of winning the title," said Mat Sand, who finished his fourth season as Baker's coach.

"We set goals and we set some other things that we wanted to achieve as the season went on. I just knew at the beginning of the season that this team was very special. As a coach, you just try to get the players to believe in you and buy into what we're (assistant coaches Shawn Berry, Amy Younger) teaching the team and they did that. They believed in themselves throughout the season and it showed with our record."

After Sydney Younger's two free throws gave Baker a 39-37 lead with 6:28 left in the game, Marist's Madison Ficek, who led all scorers with 17 points, scored four straight points to give the Spartans a 41-39 lead with 5:21 left. It was Marist's final lead.

Council OKs property rules

By Casey Crowley
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MARCH 13 — The Baker City Council on Tuesday voted 5-0 to approve the final reading of a revised property maintenance ordinance that gives the Baker Justice Court judge the authority to block residents, and others, from properties the judge deems "chronic neigh-

borhood nuisances" based on criteria in the ordinance.

The city would have to ask the judge to make such a determination.

The ordinance also includes a section under which the judge can allow property owners who make an effort to clean up their property to continue to have access to it.

Baker wins contest for all-abilities playground

MARCH 22 — In the end, it wasn't even close.

Baker City dominated a month-long online voting contest sponsored by Moda Health and the Portland Trail Blazers and will win a grant of about \$35,000 to buy equipment for an all-abilities playground at Geiser-Pollman Park.

Baker City received about 63,600 votes, more than 24,000 more than second-place Prineville. Blazers' star Damian Lillard congratulated Baker City in a video message posted Thursday on Moda Health's Facebook page.

Demonstration Outside Oregon Gov. Kate Brown's Public Event

Governor Greeting



About 30 people gathered Friday at Geiser-Pollman Park to express their opposition to some policies of Oregon Gov. Kate Brown, who spoke at the Baker Heritage Museum.

By Casey Crowley
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MARCH 4 — Oregon Governor Kate Brown visited Baker City on Friday afternoon to discuss her goals for the state for the upcoming year.

More than 70 people gathered at the Baker Heritage Museum to hear Brown talk for about 15 minutes. She then answered questions from audience members for about 45 minutes.

The question-and-answer part of the event was moderated by Baker City Mayor Loran Joseph.

Before Brown's arrival, a

group of about 30 people congregated across Grove Street at the northeast corner of Geiser-Pollman Park to display signs expressing support for President Donald Trump and the 2nd Amendment, and opposing some of Brown's policies.

Inside the Museum, Brown said that although job growth has been high and unemployment rates low in most of the state, economic prosperity hasn't reached all Oregon communities.

"My role as governor is to figure out how we provide all of our communities with

the tools you need to thrive," said Brown, a Democrat who was elected to a four-year term in November 2018.

She took over the governorship in February 2015 after John Kitzhaber resigned.

Brown said access to health care and housing will be her two top priorities for 2019.

Brown said while about 94 percent of adults have access to health care coverage the state is working to increase that to 100 percent.

As for housing, that's an issue "impacting every single community around the state," the governor said.



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