



In HOME, 1B
Super
snack
recipes

IN THIS EDITION: Local • Home & Living • Sports Monday \$1.50

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Blake Marlia of Baker City.

Sports, 6A

SEATTLE — Payton Pritchard hit his sixth 3-pointer of the game with 3.4 seconds left in overtime and Oregon rallied from a 16-point second-half deficit to stun Washington 64-61 on Saturday.

BRIEFING

Red Cross blood drive set Jan. 27

The American Red Cross has scheduled a blood drive for Monday, Jan. 27 at the Nazarene Church, 1250 Hughes Lane. Call Myrna Evans at 541-523-5368 to make, cancel, or reschedule an appointment.

Free soup lunches planned at Haines Methodist Church

HAINES — The Haines United Methodist Church invites residents to join its congregation for free soup lunches on the last Sunday of the next three months — Jan. 26, Feb. 23 and March 29. Lunch will be served from 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., following the regular Sunday morning service. The menu includes soup, bread and a dessert. The church is at the corner of the Anthony Lakes Highway and Roberts Street, west of the railroad tracks.

WEATHER

Today

37 / 28



Mostly cloudy

Tuesday

42 / 26



Rain or snow showers

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.

Series Of Storms Over One Week Bolsters Snowpack

Rapid Reversal

■ Several sites have more than doubled their snowpack this month



Jayson Jacoby/Baker City Herald

Snow has piled up over the past week on picnic tables just below Mason Dam.

By Jayson Jacoby

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Northeastern Oregon's snowpack went from paltry to plentiful.

And the transformation took just a week or so.

A series of snowstorms that started Jan. 10 has more than doubled the water content in the snow at several measuring sites around the region.

Water content, not snow depth, is the key statistic in snowpack because a foot of heavy snow can hold more water than 18 inches of powder.

The mountain snowpack is a major source of water during the spring and summer, when melting snow keeps streams flowing and refills reservoirs.

After a major storm at Thanksgiving, snow was scarce

during most of December and the first week of January, leaving the snowpack at a little more than half of average.

In December, for the first time since early April 2019, the U.S. Drought Monitor rated Northeastern Oregon as "abnormally dry," the category preliminary to drought.

See **Snowpack**/Page 3A



Jayson Jacoby/Baker City Herald

After a snowy week, the sun shone brightly on fresh powder Sunday near Phillips Reservoir.

Cell tower appeal Tuesday

■ Verizon Wireless wants to build a 70-foot cell tower just north of D Street in Baker City

The Baker City Council is scheduled to meet Tuesday evening to consider Verizon Wireless' appeal of the denial of its application to build a 70-foot cell tower.

The hearing is set for 6 p.m. at City Hall, 1655 First St.

Verizon appealed the city Planning Commission's 5-2 vote on Dec. 4 to deny an application to build a tower near Leo Adler Field in North Baker City.

The original appeal was scheduled for Jan. 7, but it was postponed after an attorney representing Verizon was unable to attend due to an issue with an airline flight.

The city's zoning rules allow a tower of up to 50 feet tall on the property, which is just north of D Street near East Street.

But Verizon officials contend that the company's engineers determined a 70-foot tower is the minimum height needed to meet the company's goals. Verizon has offered to add green "branches" to the single-pole tower, in an attempt to make it look more like a tree and thus reduce its visual effects.

Several residents who testified before the Planning Commission last fall said they believe a 70-foot tower would mar their views.

Although the property is zoned general-industrial, the neighborhood is primarily residential.

Fire damages Joseph School

By Steve Tool and Ellen Morris Bishop

Wallowa County Chieftain

JOSEPH — At about 11:35 a.m. Thursday, Joseph Charter School students were enjoying a leisurely lunch. Within minutes they would find their world turned upside down.

Eighth-grader Nathan Bosch got a surprise when he headed for the weight room on the second level of the JCS gym, Sather Court.

"I heard a buzzing sound," Bosch said. "I looked up and there was white smoke coming from the ceiling. Then the fire alarm went off. I just ran."

He ran in the right direction — to the office and reported where he'd seen smoke.

See **Joseph**/Page 3A

Baker High School to donate money to Joseph

Baker High School will donate money from ticket sales to today's games against Mac-Hi at BHS to the Joseph School District. Bulldog-themed items will also be auctioned during halftimes. The Baker girls varsity will play about 4 p.m., with the boys varsity tipping off around 5:30 p.m. The games were originally scheduled for Saturday but were postponed due to concerns that weather could close Interstate 84 between Pendleton and Baker City.



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TODAY

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WEDNESDAY — GO! MAGAZINE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE