



In SPORTS, A6
Baker
all-stars
at state
tourney

Baker City Herald

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DROUGHT
Dry conditions bring hardship to Eastern Oregon farms and ranches

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AgriBusiness

INCLUDED WITH THURSDAY'S ISSUE

24-page special section examines the effects of severe drought on farming and ranching in Northeastern Oregon, and other topics related to agriculture.

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Toni Hays of Baker City.

Oregon, A3

A recall effort against Sen. Lynn Findley, R-Vale, has been officially approved to begin circulating petitions.

BRIEFING

Baker County commissioners to meet Wednesday

Baker County Commissioners will meet Wednesday, July 21 at 9 a.m. at the Courthouse, 1995 Third St.

- Agenda items include:
- A request for funding from the Baker Rural Fire District.
 - Public hearing for a proposal to authorize the county to sell two parcels of county property near East Pine Creek in the eastern part of the county. One parcel is 40 acres, the other 60 acres.

WEATHER

Tuesday

89 / 53



Partly sunny

Wednesday

88 / 48



Mostly sunny

The space below is for a postage label for issues that are mailed.

Festival, Which Was Canceled In 2020, Brings Crowds To Park, Downtown

Jubilee Returns



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

Delicioso restaurant had a colorful float in the Miners Jubilee parade Saturday, July 17.

By Joanna Mann and Jayson Jacoby
Baker City Herald

The throngs of people strolling through Geiser-Pollman Park helped to tell the story.

The crowds that lined downtown sidewalks for Baker City's first parade in nearly two years added their own

hefty chapter Saturday morning, July 17.

So did the rodeo fans who gathered in the grandstand and bleachers at the Fairgrounds two straight nights to watch riders try to stay aboard the undulating spines of broncs and bulls.

See Jubilee/ Page A3

"I knew it was going to be huge, cause we can all finally gather again, but I had no idea it was going to be that big."

— Shelly Cutler, executive director, Baker County Chamber of Commerce

COVID rules remain at jail

By Corey Kirk
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While the community continues to return to normalcy nearly a year and a half into the COVID-19 pandemic, the situation hasn't changed much at the Baker County Jail.

The jail, built in 1991 at 3410 K St. in northwest Baker City, remains under social distancing guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and the Oregon Health Authority for the time being, Sheriff Travis Ash said.



Ash

"We are still following the CDC guidance, we have weekly meetings with the OHA and the Oregon State Sheriffs Association," Ash said.

See Jail/ Page A3

Baker avoids fires, but not smoke

By Jayson Jacoby
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Baker County has so far missed the big wildfires burning in Oregon and elsewhere in the West, but the county hasn't avoided the most noxious of their byproducts.

Smoke. With a persistent pattern of southwesterly winds at higher altitudes, smoke from the Bootleg fire in Klamath and Lake counties has wafted into Baker County.

See Smoke/ Page A2



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

Shriner Mike Rudi walked with the Baker County Shrine Club's float during the Miners Jubilee parade on Saturday, July 17. Like Miners Jubilee, the East-West Shrine All-Star Football Game returns this year after a one-year hiatus in 2020 due to the pandemic. The fundraiser for the Shriners' Hospital for Children in Portland is set for Aug. 7 at Baker Bulldog Memorial Stadium.

Stubborn pattern prolongs heat wave

■ Presence of a high pressure ridge is typical for summer, a meteorologist says, but duration is unusual

By Jayson Jacoby
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Hot weather in mid-July is hardly a surprise in Baker County, Jay Breidenbach points out.

This is, after all, statistically the county's hottest month.

The daily record high temperature is 100 or above on 19 of July's 31 days — the most of any month.

But Breidenbach, who is a meteorologist, concedes there's nothing typical about the spell of hot weather that started with the summer solstice nearly a month ago.

"Normally it's hot in the summertime, of course," said Breidenbach, the warning coordination meteorologist at the National Weather Service's Boise office, which handles forecasts for Baker County.

"What is not typical is the duration of this pattern."

Here's a few statistics to put into perspective Breidenbach's point about the persistence of heat so far this summer.

• The last day the temperature at the Baker City Airport didn't reach at least 83 degrees was June 16.

• Over the next 32 days — June 17 through July 18 — the temperature at the airport topped 90 on 22 days. That's just below the average of about 24 such days — for the entire year — recorded between 1943 and 2012.

• The temperature surpassed 90 degrees on 19 of 20 days, June 26 through July 15. On the only exception, July 7, the high was 89 degrees. That snapped a streak of 11 straight 90-degree-plus days, the longest stretch in almost four years and the sixth-longest in at least the past half century.

That single degree prevented what would have been a record-setting stretch of 20 straight days with a high of 90 or hotter. The record at the airport is 16 days, set in 1994 and tied in 2017. Both of those hot spells spanned late July and early August.

The city enjoyed a respite over the first part of Miners Jubilee weekend, but it was of the modest variety — the high temperature was 88 degrees on both Friday, July 16 and Saturday, July 17.

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TODAY
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TUESDAY — GO! MAGAZINE ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE