

In SPORTS, A6

Utes rout Ducks again

# Baker City Herald

December 7, 2021

Serving Baker County since 1870 • bakercityherald.com

IN THIS EDITION:

Local • Home & Living • Sports

\$1.50

QUICK HITS

**Good Day Wish To A Subscriber**

A special good day to Herald subscriber Jessie Ritich of Baker City.

BRIEFING

**Haines Fire District meets Dec. 13**

HAINES — The Haines Fire Protection District will have its monthly board of directors meeting on Monday, Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. at the main fire station, 816 Cole St. in Haines. All citizens in the district are welcome to attend. COVID-19 safety protocols will be in effect.

**Baker City Police hosting Angel Tree**

The Baker City Police Department is hosting, in partnership with The Salvation Army, an Angel Tree decorated with gift tags in the front entrance of the Police Department at 1768 Auburn Ave. Angel Tree gift tags are special wished-for items given during the holiday season to children in need within our community.

If you would like to pick up an Angel Tree gift tag and purchase the gift for a local child, you can then return the unwrapped gift to the Police Department.

The last day to turn in a gift is Friday, Dec. 17.

For more information, call Phoebe Wachtel at 541-524-2014, extension 603, or Susan Bland with The Salvation Army at 541-523-5853.

WEATHER

Today

45 / 32

Partly sunny



Wednesday

45 / 21

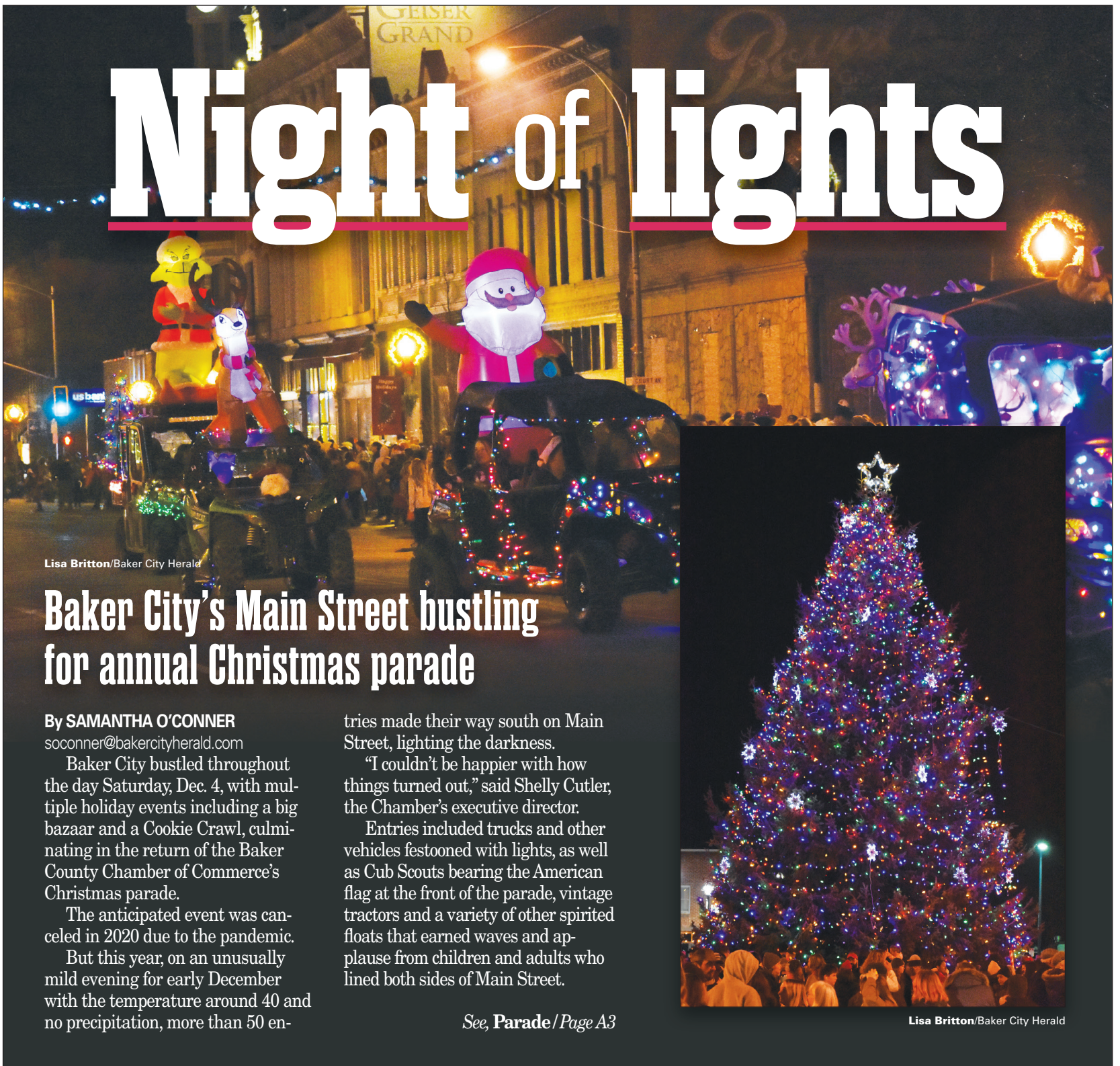
Cloudy



Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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

## Night of lights



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

### Baker City's Main Street bustling for annual Christmas parade

By SAMANTHA O'CONNOR  
soconnor@bakercityherald.com

Baker City bustled throughout the day Saturday, Dec. 4, with multiple holiday events including a big bazaar and a Cookie Crawl, culminating in the return of the Baker County Chamber of Commerce's Christmas parade.

The anticipated event was canceled in 2020 due to the pandemic.

But this year, on an unusually mild evening for early December with the temperature around 40 and no precipitation, more than 50 en-

tries made their way south on Main Street, lighting the darkness.

"I couldn't be happier with how things turned out," said Shelly Cutler, the Chamber's executive director.

Entries included trucks and other vehicles festooned with lights, as well as Cub Scouts bearing the American flag at the front of the parade, vintage tractors and a variety of other spirited floats that earned waves and applause from children and adults who lined both sides of Main Street.

See, Parade/Page A3

Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

## Waiting for storms

### Anthony Lakes Ski Area needs quite a bit of snow to open

By JAYSON JACOBY  
jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

When you run a ski area, the term "record high temperature" might as well be one four-letter word.

A couple of early fall storms whitened the slopes at Anthony Lakes Ski Area, but that promising start devolved into a period of unseasonably mild temperatures, said Chelsea Judy, marketing director for the resort in the Elkhorn Mountains west of North Powder.

Although a bit of snow still lingers in sheltered areas, there's not enough to thrust a measuring stick into it to get a reading, Judy said.

"I wouldn't call it a (snow) base yet," she said on Thursday morning, Dec. 2.

That was just a day after the temperature rose to 54 degrees at the Baker City Airport, breaking the previous record high, for the first day of December, of 53 set in 2013.

But Judy points out that at Anthony Lakes, with the highest base elevation (7,100 feet) among Northwest ski areas, the transition to full-fledged winter



Jayson Jacoby/Baker City Herald

A couple inches of snow covered the slopes at Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort on Sunday morning, Dec. 5. The ski area, in the Elkhorn Mountains west of North Powder, needs about two feet of snow for a partial opening.

can be, and often is, rapid.

"A couple of good storms" can sometimes be enough to kick off the ski season, she said.

Typically, Anthony Lakes needs about two feet of snow to start running the lift, although a deeper base is required to fully open all the downhill runs.

The weather forecast looked promising late last week, but the National Weather Service, after consulting its sophisticated computer models, tempered its initial predictions for significant snowfall in the

mountains this week.

Weak storms brought light snow to the area late Saturday, Dec. 4, and again Monday, Dec. 6, and cooler temperatures, and a chance for more snow, is forecast for later in the week as well.

With snow scarce across Oregon and the Northwest, Judy said she expects skiers and snowboarders will be eager to make their first runs when the weather allows.

"We're definitely expecting pretty big numbers as soon as we're able

to open," she said. "We're all excited to ski."

Judy pointed out that attendance was up at ski areas across the nation last winter, a trend industry officials attributed in part to people looking for outdoor activities during the pandemic.

On the viral front, Judy said this winter should be different from the last at Anthony Lakes.

Barring any new state-imposed restrictions, the plan is to open the lodge as usual this winter and have a normal parking system, she said.

Last winter, by contrast, Anthony Lakes encouraged visitors to use their vehicles as a staging spot, and although restrooms were available, the lodge was otherwise closed.

Although face masks will be required indoors, they will not be mandated in lift lines, as was the case last winter, Judy said.

One change from last winter that will carry over to 2021-22 is on the Nordic side.

Judy said the mobile Nordic "outpost" — a converted trailer — will again be parked in the Elkhorn Crest trailhead lot about a quarter-mile east of the lodge, just off the highway.

See, Ski/Page A3

BAKER CITY STEER WRESTLER JESSE BROWN AT NATIONAL FINALS RODEO

### Brown adds to winnings at NFR

By ANNIE FOWLER and JAYSON JACOBY  
EO Media Group

Jesse Brown, professional steer wrestler from Baker City, added to his winnings at the National Finals Rodeo with a fourth-place finish Friday, Dec. 3 in the second round of the 10-day event in Las Vegas.

Brown, who entered the National Finals ranked second in the world, had a time of 3.7 seconds and won \$9,144 in the second round.

He was in a two-way tie for fifth place in the first round on Dec. 2, winning \$5,661.

Through the fourth round at the National Finals, Brown, a 2011 Baker High School graduate, was in sixth place in the world standings with winnings of \$117,163.27 this season.

Brown tied for ninth in both the third round on Saturday, Dec. 4 and the fourth round on Sunday, Dec. 5, finishing out of the money.

Brown had a stout steer during Sunday's Round 4. He took his steer down in 5 seconds, but was two places out of picking up a check.

"He was pretty full," Brown said. "He was big. There's still six nights left and a lot of money."

See, Rodeo/Page A3



TODAY  
Issue 88, 14 pages

Classified..... B4-B6  
Comics..... B7  
Community News.... A3

Crossword..... B4 & B6  
Dear Abby..... B8  
Home..... B1 & B3

Horoscope..... B4 & B6  
Letters..... A4  
Lottery Results..... A2

News of Record..... A3  
Obituaries..... A2  
Opinion..... A4

Senior Menus..... A2  
Sports..... A5 & A6  
Weather..... B8