



INSIDE
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Arts and entertainment magazine



SPORTS A8
Powder Valley boys best Condon, 59-51

Baker City Herald

IN THIS EDITION: LOCAL • BUSINESS & AG LIFE • SPORTS Serving Baker County since 1870 • bakercityherald.com THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2022 • \$1.50

QUICK HITS

Good Day Wish To A Subscriber

A special good day to Herald subscriber Wade Saunders of Baker City.

BRIEFING

Speaker to discuss modernizing irrigation systems

On March 2, the Powder Basin Watershed Council in Baker City will host a talk by Julie Davies O'Shea, executive director of the Farmers Conservation Alliance (FCA) based in Hood River. She will discuss how her organization has worked throughout the West to modernize irrigation systems benefiting both agriculture and the environment.

Her presentation will start at 6:30 p.m. at the Sunridge Inn, 1 Sunridge Lane.

She will explain how FCA's Irrigation Modernization Program creates a path forward for irrigation districts to upgrade their infrastructure, saving water and operating costs, while restoring streams, protecting fish, and generating clean, renewable energy. In addition, she will give an overview of recent projects the organization has worked on to give an idea of possibilities and approaches.

"One of our board members thought that given the recent drought, it is an ideal time to share information with irrigators and planners on ways to more efficiently use our limited water resources," said Tim Bailey, the Watershed Council's executive director.

More information is available by calling Bailey at 541-523-7288 or 541-786-4312.

WEATHER

Today
24/0
Mostly cloudy

Friday
29/4
Sunny

Full forecast on the back of the B section.

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



The Bulldogs' MAGICAL SEASON

Photo Courtesy of Ann Ross

The 1972 Baker High School boys basketball team. Top row, left to right: Head Coach Gary Hammond, Rick Scrivner, Craig Erickson, Wes Morgan, Daryl Ross, Mike Davis, Mark Johnson, Randy Daugherty, Assistant Coach John Heriza. Bottom row, left to right: Statistician Gerry Steele, Tim Wood, Fred Warner Jr., Greg Sackos, Dick Sheehy, and manager Verl Cote.

Ceremony Friday evening, Feb. 25, will honor the 1972 BHS boys basketball team, which finished 2nd in the state

By JAYSON JACOBY
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Half a century on, many of those who were there remember the crowd with particular clarity.

And the cacophony. No Baker High School sports team had ever played in front of a bigger audience than the Bulldog boys basketball squad did on that Saturday night, March 25, 1972.

And none has in the five decades that have come since.

The organizers of the Class AAA state tournament managed to cram 13,395 spectators into Portland's Memorial Coliseum.

That's 729 more people than the listed capacity for the then 12-year-old arena, home to the Portland Trail Blazers, the city's one-year-old NBA franchise.

It's also about 90% of the population in Baker County at that time.

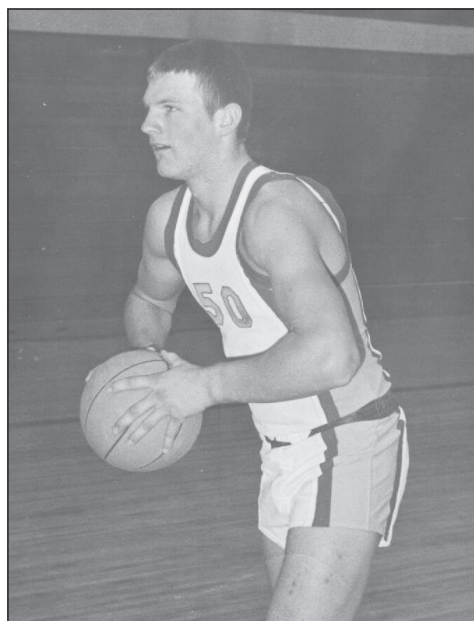


Photo courtesy of Ann Ross

Senior post Daryl Ross, 6-foot-7, was the leading scorer on Baker's 1972 state runner-up team. Ross went on to play basketball at Montana State University.

"It was a special year in the history of Baker High School sports."

— Randy Daugherty, a junior on the 1972 Baker boys basketball team



Photo courtesy of Ann Ross

Baker's Daryl Ross, right, plays against Jefferson in the 1972 Oregon state championship game at Portland's Memorial Coliseum.

This mass of humanity had gathered to watch an improbable — and unusually compelling, due to its many distinct contrasts — state championship basketball game.

There were the Bulldogs from Baker, a small town at the far eastern edge of Oregon, considerably closer to Boise than to Portland.

The farm boys. All sporting crew cuts more reminiscent of the Eisenhower administration than the Nixon era.

Baker's longtime coach, Gary Hammond, in his final game before retiring with a lifetime record of 565 wins against 171 losses, insisted on that hairstyle, a precision that mirrored his approach to basketball.

"Hammond ran a pretty tight ship," said John Heriza, now 90, who was Baker's assistant coach and replaced Hammond as head coach the next season.

See, **Bulldogs**/Page A6

Baker City Councilor Heather Sells resigns

Sells, elected in 2020, is moving out of Oregon

BY SAMANTHA O'CONNOR
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Baker City Councilor Heather Sells announced during the Council's Tuesday, Feb. 22, meeting that she is resigning, effective March 1, because her family is moving out of Oregon.

Sells was elected to a two-year term in November 2020.

Her term continues through the end of 2022. Per the city charter, the remaining councilors can appoint Sells' replacement. Typically the Council solicits applications from residents who meet the requirements, which include being a registered voter who has lived within the city limits for at least 12 months.

By moving outside the city limits, Sells would no longer be eligible to serve as a councilor.

Mayor Kerry McQuisten thanked Sells for her service.

"And congratulations on the next step," McQuisten said.

Sells read her resignation letter during the meeting.

"I ran for city council during one of the most unique and unnerving times in recent history. The pandemic shook us — and it shook us hard. I had a strong desire to help our local businesses, emergency workers and first responders and to help our community bounce back stronger than ever," Sells said.

See, **Councilor**/Page A3



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

The "Blind Date With a Book" display at the Baker County Library encourages patrons to try a book without knowing its title. The display will be up through March 14.

Try a book — without seeing its cover

BY LISA BRITTON

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You shouldn't judge a book by its cover, but the Baker County Public Library has taken this notion to the extreme.

Library staff Missy Grammon and Courtney Snyder launched "Blind Date with a Book" on Feb. 7.

The display is located in the Teen Room at the library, 2400 Resort St., but anyone who enjoys young adult books is welcome to check them out.

It's already been restocked twice. The poster encourages readers to "Take a book home without knowing its title. Go ahead...take a chance on love!"

Each book is wrapped in black paper. The attached label gives a few clues — genre, who it's recommended for, the first line of the book, and who chose it.

See, **Books**/Page A3



TODAY
Issue 120
30 pages

BusinessB1 & B2
ClassifiedB2-B4
ComicsB5
Community News.....A2
CrosswordB2 & B4
Dear AbbyB6
HoroscopeB2 & B4
Letters.....A4
Lottery Results.....A2

News of Record.....A2
OpinionA4
Senior Menus.....A2
SportsA8
Turning BacksA2
WeatherB6