

TOP-5 SUMMER HIKES

EXPLORE, B1 »

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SPORTS PULLOUT, B3-6

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Christopher Pietsch/The Register-Guard file

Bend's Mel Lawrence (center) competes in the first round of women's steeplechase on Sunday night at the U.S. Olympic Track & Field Trials in Eugene.

U.S. OLYMPIC TRACK & FIELD TRIALS | STEEPLCHASE FINAL

Bend's Lawrence finishes 7th

She misses out on Tokyo

BY MARK MORICAL
The Bulletin

Bend runner Mel Lawrence ran a personal best but finished seventh Thursday night in the women's 3,000-meter steeplechase final at the U.S. Olympic Track & Field Trials at Eugene's Hayward Field to miss out on qualifying for the Tokyo Games.

Lawrence, 31, finished in a time of 9 minutes, 26.15 seconds.

The top three finishers qualified for Tokyo. Emma Coburn, the 2016 Olympic bronze medalist, won the race in a trials-record time of 9:09.41, followed by Courtney Frerichs (9:11.79) and Val Constien (9:18.34).

Lawrence stayed in the middle of the pack for the first half of the race but started to lose pace

with the leaders when Coburn and Frerichs began to pull away from the 14-runner field.

Lawrence finished eighth in the steeplechase in her first Olympic trials in 2016.

Also Thursday night, three of Lawrence's teammates from Bend on the Littlewing Athletics team raced in the first round of the women's 800 meters.

Rebecca Mehra, Sadi Hender-

son and Angel Piccirillo were all in the same heat as they vied to reach the 800 semifinals, scheduled for Friday at 3 p.m.

Only Mehra advanced, finishing second in the heat in 2:01.42, a season best for her. Henderson finished third in the heat in 2:02.40, and Piccirillo was ninth in 2:06.95.

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Central Oregon weather

Potentially record-breaking heat wave to hit this weekend



Ryan Brennecke/Bulletin photos

Aurik Griffin, 6, of Sisters, smiles Thursday as water showers down while cooling off with friends in the splash pad at Fir Street Park in Sisters.

BY DYLAN JEFFERIES
The Bulletin

A scorching heat wave is expected to hit Central Oregon this weekend, with triple-digit temperatures forecast to reach 106 degrees in Redmond and 104 degrees in Bend by Monday, according to the National Weather Service.

The weather service, which issued an excessive heat warning for Friday through Thursday, forecast 100 degrees across much of Central Oregon on Saturday before peaking Sunday and Monday. Temperatures are not expected to dip below 100 until Thursday, when the high is predicted to be 98.

"Sunday is going to be brutal," said Robert Brooks, a meteorologist with the weather service in Pendleton. "And it could potentially get hotter than anticipated."

The long-term forecast from the weather service was more blunt: "Sunday through Thursday ... It's depressing, unfortunately."

Cooling shelters will open in Bend, Redmond and Madras for the homeless.

See Heat / A6



Ahriah Goss, 9, serves Matthew Platt and Ariana Swanson cups of lemonade as her sister Adele Goss, 10, brings them ice cream cones while operating a lemonade stand at their grandmother's house in east Bend on Thursday. The pair said they have had a steady stream of customers trying to cool off from the hot temperatures the entire afternoon.

OREGON LEGISLATURE

Budget panel approves 2 new judges

Deschutes County Circuit Court system is growing

BY GARY A. WARNER
Oregon Capital Bureau

The Legislature's key budget-writing panel early Thursday approved two new circuit court judges for Deschutes County as part of a flurry of spending at the end of the 2021 session.

The new judges were approved by the Joint Ways & Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction.

The subcommittee is one of the most powerful in the Legislature, made up of 10 top leaders from both parties in the Senate and House.

Approval by the subcommittee almost always signals a bill will have bipartisan support for the final votes in the full Ways & Means Committee and on the floor of the House and Senate. Approval from the House and Senate is expected as early as Friday for the legislation to go to Gov. Kate Brown.

The new judges address growing congestion in the Deschutes County Circuit Court system.

Deschutes County Commissioner Patti Adair expressed support on Thursday.

See Judges / A6

Big building projects at universities get key OK to use bonds

BY GARY A. WARNER
Oregon Capital Bureau

Oregon's universities were given approval by a key committee Thursday to use nearly \$446 million in state bonds to finance major building and renovation projects.

A football stadium grandstand, two student success centers, classrooms, a manufacturing laboratory and theater were on the final list for \$445,905,100 in bonds to be sold to public markets.

While major new buildings will go up in Bend, Klamath Falls and Scappoose, much of the money will be spent extending the life of existing buildings ranging from historic to just old, but all with archaic spaces and systems.

See Bonds / A6

TODAY'S WEATHER Brilliant sunshine High 92, Low 57 Page B5

INDEX

Business	A7-8	Dear Abby	A8	History	A3	Obituaries	A8
Classifieds	B6	Editorial	A5	Horoscope	A8	Puzzles	B8
Comics	B7-8	Explore	B1-2,9-10	Local/State	A2-3	Sports	B3-5

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