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**PRAIRIE CITY BOYS PLACE 2ND AT STATE** PAGE A13

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# Legislature adjourns 2018 session

By Paris Achen  
Capital Bureau

Oregon legislative leaders Saturday celebrated a 28-day policymaking session marked by some bipartisan legislation. The Legislature's Democratic leaders launched the session Feb. 5 with lofty ambitions of universal health care and a cap and invest program. Adjourning Saturday law-

**“I was worried that we were over-committed, doing too much, but we just adjourned eight days before the constitutional deadline.”**

makers left the state Capitol having passed smaller policy advancements with consensus from the Republican minority in many instances. “This session surprised me,” said Senate President Peter Courtney, D-Salem. “I was worried that

we were over-committed, doing too much, but we just adjourned eight days before the constitutional deadline.” Lawmakers made a fix to the state's domestic violence gun laws, passed some measures to push back

on Trump administration policies and made changes to help fund affordable housing and shed light on pharmaceutical drug prices. The Legislature's “short” session — held in even-numbered years — was sold to voters in 2010 as a time to

fix laws and adjust the state budget. In 2016, the Legislature used the short session to pass major policies such as an increase in minimum wage and limits on the use of coal power. This time, lawmakers showed restraint as many of them prepared for reelection bids this year. The filing deadline for the May 15 primary was March 6. See *SESSION*, Page A7

# Arcing across the divide

## Country kids and city kids spark welding bond in Monument

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

**W**elding creates bonds — between metals, between students. Monument School shop teacher Michele Engle and her six students welcomed Mark Lynch and four members of his high school welding class from Clackamas for two days of in-depth instruction.

With a student population of 47 for Monument, and the visitors coming from a technical school of 3,500, the matchup Feb. 26-27 was a learning experience for both groups.

Engle met instructor Mark Lynch, a manufacturing instructor for Sabin-Schellenberg Professional Technical Center, last December at a Skills USA conference in Redmond.

She said Monument School joined the career technical student organization this school year, and being new to welding herself, she was grateful when several people at the conference offered help, including Lynch.

Lynch is a certified welding inspector, instructor and safety trainer. Over the two days, he and his students taught techniques in different types of welding, including gas metal arc welding and gas tungsten arc welding.

The students also learned brazing, a metal-joining process, and each created a life-sized metal rose. A welding competition also helped them gain more experience.

Clackamas sophomore Alex Tobiassen said the trip to Monument with his welding friends was fun.



Monument junior Cade Milton shows a metal flower he made in class.



Monument junior Cade Milton, right, welds with junior Davis Courtney of Sabin-Schellenberg guiding during a two-day event at Monument School.

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Eagle photos/Angel Carpenter

# Marijuana measure will go to voters

## County could earn tax revenue from sales

By Richard Hanners  
Blue Mountain Eagle

A petition to allow recreational marijuana businesses to operate in Grant County nearly didn't make it to the ballot for this May.

Haley Olson, who had spearheaded the signature gathering, showed up at the Grant County Clerk's office with four or five minutes to spare, her mother Cindy Kidd said.

“If she had tripped on the courthouse steps, she wouldn't have made it,” Kidd said.

To qualify for the ballot, Olson needed to collect signatures from at least 196 active registered voters — 6 percent of the number of

voters in the 2014 gubernatorial election, according to Grant County Clerk Brenda Percy.

Olson had only two weeks from the time the public challenge period ended for the wording of the petition to the time the petitions needed to be filed with the county clerk. She submitted 293 signatures and 222 were accepted, Percy said.

### Second petition

The measure seeks to overturn Grant County Ordinance 2015-01 and allow licensed recreational marijuana producers, processors, dispensaries, wholesalers, labs and research facilities to operate in Grant County. The county would



Cindy Kidd, left, and Haley Olson stand for a photo in Rocky Mountain Dispensary, Grant County's first medical marijuana dispensary.

receive tax revenues from these activities, the measure states.

Grant County banned all marijuana businesses in 2015. Attorney



Several grams of marijuana at the Rocky Mountain Dispensary in John Day.

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