



NATIONAL FINALS RODEO

The Minor brothers finished fifth in the world and Kimzey won his sixth-straight buckle.
SPORTS, PAGE B1

BULLDOG BASKETBALL

The Ellensburg girls basketball team keeps on winning, improves to 5-0.
SPORTS, PAGE B1



DAILY RECORD

PUBLISHED IN THE HEART OF WASHINGTON | DAILYRECORDNEWS.COM

Good afternoon

Monday

December 16, 2019

\$1.00

Shop with a Cop



JACOB FORD / DAILY RECORD

Bristol Rakos, right, and Ellensburg Police Departments Stephanie Druktenis during the annual Shop With a Cop event Saturday at Bi-Mart.

First responders help build the holiday spirit through annual event

By JACK BELCHER
staff writer

Local first responders gave back to the community through a shopping spree with local elementary school students at the annual “Shop with a Cop.”

Children were able to shop for the event with money provided through donations from the community. The money was divided amongst the children, so that each child received \$100 for the shopping spree.

School principals, teachers and counselors from across Kittitas County chose “children in need” to participate in the event. These children got to meet local first responders such as the Ellensburg Police, CWU Police, Kittitas County Sheriffs and Kittitas Valley



JACOB FORD / DAILY RECORD

Rally picks out his bicycle during a bike raffle at the annual Shop With a Cop event Saturday at Kittitas Valley Fire & Rescue prior to going to Bi-Mart to shop.

Fire and Rescue.
The day started with a breakfast in the fire station

garage, next to the emergency response vehicles. During the breakfast, Ellensburg Police

Officer Cameron Clasen pulled the children’s names out of a firefighter’s helmet. Brand-new bicycles were set up near the breakfast tables, and when a child’s name was drawn from the helmet, they would get to pick out a bicycle.

This was the first time the event was coordinated by Clasen, although he volunteered to help for the program a couple of times before. The program has been a part of the community for the last 17 years.

“It is a positive interaction with the children, they just love doing it, the kids get to come over here and shop,” Clasen said. “The community members really came out and donated so that these kids could actually have this opportunity.”

More **SHOP** | A5

Crash shines light on immigrants in Christmas tree workforce

By ANDREW SELSKY
Associated Press

GERVAIS, Ore. — It was nighttime when Pedro Lucas came home, clutching receipts showing he had paid a funeral home to have the bodies of three immigrant laborers returned to Guatemala from Oregon.

The three, including two of Lucas’ cousins, were killed when a pickup truck slammed into a van carrying them and 10 other Guatemalans home from work at a Christmas tree farm. Lucas’ father, who arrived in America just seven months ago and sent part of his earnings to his wife in the village of Chacaj, was also in the van and remains in a coma, his back broken.

“It’s unknown if he’ll walk again,” Lucas said in Spanish. The Nov. 29 crash shined a light on Oregon’s immigrant farm



AP

Flowers, candles, and other objects are shown at a memorial, Thursday at the scene where three Christmas tree farm workers from Guatemala were killed and others were injured in a van crash on Nov. 29 in Salem, Ore.

workers, the driving force behind the state’s \$121 million Christmas tree industry, the nation’s largest.

“People don’t realize that the majority of this industry is immigrant labor,” said Reyna Lopez, ex-

ecutive director of a farm worker union called PCUN, an acronym in Spanish for Pine Workers and Farmers United of the Northwest.

The victims of the crash spent their last day loading Christmas trees onto trucks at Holiday Tree Farms, one of the world’s largest Christmas tree farms. They received paychecks from a contractor that Friday night in Salem and were headed home when the pickup truck crumpled their van. The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division is investigating, though a spokesman declined to provide details.

In 2017, 4.7 million Christmas trees were harvested in Oregon, 4 million in North Carolina and 1.5 million in Michigan, the country’s three largest producers, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

More **CRASH** | A5

House Judiciary Committee releases report on impeachment

WASHINGTON, D.C. (TNS) — The House Judiciary Committee early Monday released its report on the impeachment inquiry of President Donald Trump, setting the stage for a historic week in Washington that will likely see Trump to be the third U.S. president impeached.

The 658-page, four-part report lays out the case against the president and the charges of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress.

In part one, the committee explains how the House Intelligence Committee conducted its investigation of the allegations against Trump. Part two explains the standards of impeachment in the Constitution.

The third part details the committee’s conclusion that Trump abused the power of the presidency.

“President Trump has realized the Framers’ worst nightmare,” the committee wrote. “He has abused his power in soliciting and pressuring a vulnerable foreign nation to corrupt the next United States Presidential election by sabotaging a political opponent and endorsing a debunked conspiracy theory promoted by our adversary, Russia.”

And the fourth part addresses the charge of obstruction of Congress, concluding that while other presidents have provided information to Congress under similar circumstances, “President Trump’s stonewall, by contrast, was categorical, indiscriminate, and without precedent in American history.”

The House Ways and Means Committee will set the rules on Tuesday for the debate in the House on Wednesday, when it is expected to vote to impeach Trump.

Here is the latest on the impeachment inquiry:

Witness list: In a letter to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer indicated he’s looking for a full hearing of the charges against Trump when it takes up impeachment next year after the Senate’s holiday break.

Schumer wants to call acting White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney, former national security adviser John Bolton, senior Mulvaney adviser Robert Blair and Michael Duffey, a political appointee at the Office of Management and Budget who oversaw the process for releasing foreign aid funds. The White House blocked the four from testifying before and providing documents to House committees in their inquiry.

McConnell and Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Lindsey Graham have indicated they prefers an expedited trial in the Senate, but Schumer’s letter starts negotiations far from that.

Schumer said he some Senate Republicans might support a fuller trial.

“I expect some of my Republican colleagues when they see this letter will say ‘That’s fair.’ They don’t want to be a part of a coverup,” Schumer told CNN Monday morning.

INDEX

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Sports | B1 |
| Events calendar | A3 |
| Comics | B5 |
| Region | A5 |
| Nation | A6 |

Local news serving Ellensburg, Cle Elum, Roslyn, Kittitas, Easton, Suncadia and all of Kittitas County.

