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**Work starts on tennis courts**

The tennis courts north of Baker High School will be out of commission for several days next week as the Beynon company works to resurface and fill cracks.

The project started with the Tennis Association of Baker, which has funded court maintenance for more than 20 years. TAB will soon dissolve and join the Baker Sports Complex.

“We had enough money in the account to do one more overhaul,” said Jeff Higgins, TAB president.

He said TAB members along with Baker School District officials researched the cost of two options: resurface or replace. That's when they found the Beynon system that installs a titanium mesh-type surface called Guardian between the existing cracked courts and the new surface.

Of the six courts, the multi-layer system will be installed on the south three tennis courts. The north three will be cleaned and cracks filled.

“We'll see how the two systems weather,” Higgins said.

The exact start date next week will be determined by weather. Once finished, the public must stay off for 24 hours for the surface to seal.

Total cost of the project is $44,800. Baker School District committed $16,576. TAB donated $28,224. Of that amount, $11,500 came from the Leo Adler Community Foundation, and charitable donations totaling $10,000 came from George and Linda Keister and Bill Tipton. The rest was from the TAB account.

The Baker 5J schools enhance community vitality by providing opportunities for rewarding, individual educational experiences.
“It was a pleasure to work with TAB and their membership on a great project that will greatly improve the playing surface on the Tennis Courts not only for our students but also the community.” Witty stated.

**About Baker School District 5J**
Nationally recognized Baker School District 5J (BSD) is a major employer in Baker City, OR, serving 1,700 students locally with an additional 2500 online students across the state of Oregon. Through enterprising, collaborative endeavors, BSD is creating an enduring educational foundation for future Oregonians. BSD believes strong school collaborating with local partners are able to create vibrant communities that support lifelong learners.