

Staff photo by Eric Singer

BMCC first baseman Tanner Broom (8) puts out Treasure Valley's Connor Benaar during the first game of a doubleheader on Wednesday in Pendleton. BMCC won the game 2-0.

BMCC: Durflinger was team's top hitter

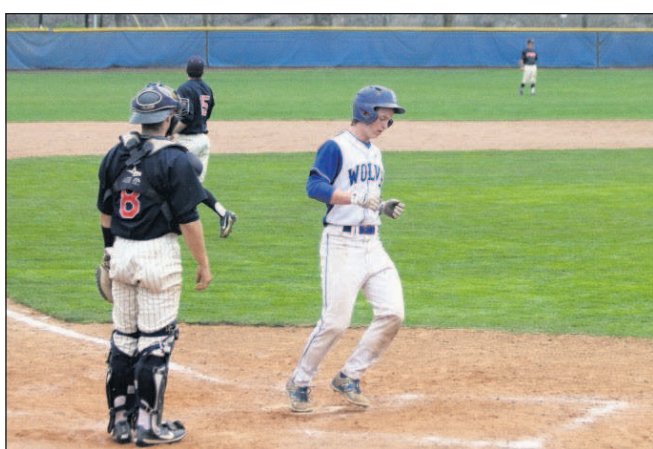
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"There was a little more energy today in the dugout and that helped me," Walker said. "Everything you do in the dugout is contagious and when the energy is up, my energy is up and that's what happened."

The Timberwolves' pitching was not quite as sharp in the second game of the day, as Fabian Green, Brooks Juhasz and Nate Keough combined to allow six hits, seven runs and seven walks over nine innings. The Timberwolves' defense did not help in some instances, as they recorded four errors.

The Chukars tagged Green for three runs in the top of the first inning, but the Timberwolves answered back with two runs in the bottom half with an RBI single by Hunter Hughes. The score remained the same until the fifth inning when the Timberwolves added three runs with the help of a Treasure Valley error and an RBI single by Alex Salsman for a 5-3 lead.

Then in the eighth inning, things nearly unraveled for



Staff photo by Eric Singer

BMCC's Nate Cantonwine (34) scores a run during the sixth inning of Game 2 of the Timberwolves' doubleheader with Treasure Valley on Wednesday in Pendleton. BMCC won the game 8-7.

the home team. Nate Keough came on in relief with an 8-4 lead and quickly recorded two outs before and two errors and an RBI triple for the Chukars cut the lead to 8-7. Then another fielding error and a walk loaded the bases, still with two outs.

However, Keough was able to dig deep and escape with the lead on a groundout to second and in the ninth, Keough settled down and retired the Chukars in order to seal the series sweep.

"I loved that response,"

Baker said. "That's what I always tell our pitchers. You're going to have some trouble, some errors behind you, some bloop hits, some bad calls. It's all about how you respond and he (Nate) responded well."

Durflinger was the top hitter for BMCC on the day with four hits and three runs scored between the two games. The sophomore utility player is now hitting .358 on the season with a .438 on-base percentage and 39 runs scored. Brady

White and Salsman each had three hits on the day for the Timberwolves.

ROBLES PITCHES IN HOMECOMING

There was one familiar face in the Treasure Valley dugout Wednesday, as Hermiston alumnus R.J. Robles was back to pitch in some familiar air. Robles started Game 1 for the Chukars and pitched a solid three innings while allowing four hits and two runs with two strikeouts while earning the loss.

In nine starts this season, Robles now has a 2-5 record with a 2.97 ERA and 38 strikeouts in 33 1/3 innings pitched.

Game 1	TVCC	BMCC	R	H	E
	000000	000	0	6	0
(T) R. Robles, R. Pope (4), T. Wheeler (8) and D. Hladky, (B) C. Walker and N. Cantonwine. W — Walker, L — Robles.					
			2	6	2
2B — T. Broom (BMCC).					

Game 2	TVCC	BMCC	R	H	E
	300000	130	7	6	2
(T) T. Strickland, R. Harris (5), C. Burrup (6), T. Wheeler (8) and W. Berg. (B) F. Green, B. Juhasz (6), N. Keough (8) and D. Durflinger. W — Green, L — Strickland.					
			8	11	4
2B — P. Higgins (TV); A. Salsman, J. Plunkett (BM). 3B — C. Benaar (TV).					

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BLAZERS: 'Home court is the most important thing'

Continued from 1B

Utah rookie Donovan Mitchell, who the night before set the new single-season record for 3-pointers with 186 — breaking Lillard's rookie mark — was 1-for-8 from the perimeter but finished with 17 points.

Ricky Rubio also had 17 while Rudy Gobert had 13 points and 13 rebounds for the Jazz, who were coming off a 119-79 victory at home against the Warriors on Tuesday night.

CJ McCollum had 19 points for the Blazers, who led by as many as 24 points in the second half.

For both teams, the game was all about seeding because the first-round playoff matches were

determined earlier in the evening. The Blazers secured home-court advantage for the first round for the first time since 2009.

Before the game Terry Stotts said the outcome of the Pelicans' finale against the Spurs was unlikely to have an impact on what Portland did against the Jazz. New Orleans won 112-98.

"I think the home court is the most important thing. I think there's something to be said about winning the division even though it doesn't give you much of an advantage, but it's something that they can't take away," Three or four seed? I think when you start trying to get cute within things it might bite you back."



AP Photo/Steve Dykes

Portland Trail Blazers forward Evan Turner shoot over Utah Jazz center Rudy Gobert, left, and guard Donovan Mitchell during the first half Wednesday's game in Portland.

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