

Sports

BAKER CROSS COUNTRY

Bulldogs run well at Weiser

By Gerry Steele
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Baker's cross country teams continued to shine Thursday at the annual Weiser Invitational.

The Baker girls placed fourth, and the boys sixth in the team standings.

"Once again the best thing I can say is wow!" said Baker coach Suzy Cole.

Cole said it was very hot in Weiser, 95 to 98 degrees while the teams were running.

"The kids were amazing again, time both on and off the course. Given the heat many runners were struggling especially at the end of the race. The Baker kids who had finished running themselves were not only cheering on their teammates but were also found at the finish line handing out water to all athletes who were finishing up," Cole said.

The Baker coach said she was worried as the races began.

"I was a little concerned as the kids seemed a little tired, but once the race started they continued to step it up," Cole said.

Cole said Kaitlyn Waters ran especially well.

"I believe this was her best race of her three years. She ran very competitive. Corah Downing and Sydney Keller continue to set the pace for the team and ran strong again.

"The girls team getting fourth overall out of 19 was a great indicator on how we are progressing."

On the boys side Kale Cassidy continues to run very strong, finishing fifth overall.

"Our times were a little slower due to the heat and the course was quite a bit more hilly than the Caldwell meet," Cole said.

She said Johnny Niehuas had a breakout race.

"He really attacked the hills. This being his first year, he is getting more confidence as he figures out how to run the courses and just how tough he is."

The boys also finished a strong sixth in the team race.

Baker travels to the Catherine Creek Scamper Friday at Union.

Weiser Invitational (Baker results)

Boys Middle School — 58. Jordan Mills, 14:51.94. 66. Reeve Damschen, 15:00.51. 133. Trenton Newmman, 19:20.31. 149. Cole Hester, 22:42.24.

Girls JV — 43. Hollie Mays, 31:35.15. 50. Payton Jones, 34:15.74. 65. Maria Granhus, 41:12.77.

Boys JV — 25. Tyler Hester, 23:01.15. 33. Joseph Daugherty, 23:18.61. 43. Eithen Hatfield, 23:57.77. 59. Kaden Dalke, 24:59.64. 73. Ian Jesenko, 26:26.36. 81. Joe Couch, 27:28.75. 89. Connor Jensen, 28:35.55.

Girls varsity — 12. Corah Downing, 23:17.32. 16. Sydney Keller, 23:38.69. 29. Salena Bott, 25:40.16. 44. Kaitlyn Waters, 25:55.42. 55. Lacey Jones, 27:07.39. 62. Jayden Rice, 27:14.94. 93. Becca Shaw, 31:34.31.

Boys varsity — 5. Kale Cassidy, 17:48.92. 20. John Niehuas, 19:02.31. 25. Lucas Stearns, 19:21.19. 43. Gavin Stone, 19:48.61. 59. Alex Gross, 20:39.26. 74. Hayden Younger, 21:03.38. 81. Shane Cunningham, 21:21.42.

WASHINGTON STATE FOOTBALL

Minshew leads Cougars 31-0 win

By Nicholas K. Geranios
Associated Press

PULLMAN, Wash. — Washington State beat San Jose State 31-0 on Saturday night, but that doesn't mean Cougars' coach Mike Leach was happy with his team.

"I was not impressed with our second half," Leach said, after the Cougars managed just one touchdown after halftime.

"We were too soft," Leach said, especially at running back. "We could get a fast seventh-grader and hit the hole as hard as we did."

Leach did acknowledge that the shutout was "a fan-

tastic effort" by the defense.

Actually, the Cougars looked pretty good in piling up 544 yards while holding the Spartans to 109. San Jose State punted 11 times.

Gardner Minshew threw three touchdown passes and ran for another score during an emotional night that began with a brief tribute to deceased WSU quarterback Tyler Hilinski.

Tay Martin caught a pair of touchdown passes for Washington State (2-0), a five-touchdown favorite in the game. Minshew completed 34 of 51 passes for 414 yards.

HOMEDALE FOOTBALL AT BAKER

Trojans attack conquers Bulldogs

By Gerry Steele
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Two different Homedale players scored four touchdowns each Friday as the Trojans stormed through Baker 62-18 in a nonleague football game at Bulldog Memorial Stadium.

Mason Kincheloe ran for 248 yards and four touchdowns. He also threw a halfback option pass for another score.

Receiver Carson Brown caught five passes — four for TDs — and 110 yards.

Brown caught all four of his scoring passes in the first quarter, when Homedale built a 34-6 lead.

Trailing 34-0, Baker finally scored when Gabe Gambleton took a pass from Spencer Shirtcliff in the right flat and raced 66 yards for the touchdown.

Kincheloe then scored his first two touchdowns in the second period as the Trojans increased their lead to 48-12 at halftime.

Alex Hammans scored Baker's other first-half touchdown on a short run.

Two more Kincheloe scoring runs in the second half caused a running clock with 11:52 left in regulation.

Baker's lone second-half score came in the fourth quarter on a 1-yard run by



S. John Collins/Baker City Herald

Alex Hammans takes the handoff from Baker quarterback Spencer Shirtcliff during Friday's nonleague football game against Homedale.

Gauge Bloomer.

Homedale finished with 540 total yards, compared to 250 for the Bulldogs.

The teams combined for 10 turnovers. Baker had six of those turnovers — four interceptions and two fumbles.

Baker (1-1) opens Greater Oregon League

play Friday at Mac-Hi.

Homedale	34	14	7	7	62
Baker	6	6	0	6	18
H	Brown 47 pass from M. Kincheloe (Lomeli kick)				
H	Brown 9 pass from Uranga (Lomeli kick)				
H	Brown 19 pass from Uranga (Lomeli kick)				
H	Deal 3 run (Lomeli kick)				
H	Brown 14 pass from Deal (Kick failed)				
B	Gambleton 66 pass from Shirtcliff (Pass failed)				
H	M. Kincheloe 17 run (Lomeli kick)				
B	Hammans 9 run (Run failed)				

H — M. Kincheloe 7 run (Lomeli kick)
H — M. Kincheloe 5 run (Lomeli kick)
H — M. Kincheloe 10 run (Lomeli kick)
B — Bloomer 1 run (Pass failed)

Individual statistics

Rushing — Homedale: M. Kincheloe 28-248, Collett 1-30, Haun 1-22, H. Kincheloe 4-18, Uranga 2-14, Deal 1-3, Christensen 1-2. Baker: Bloomer 9-39, Hammans 11-3, Shirtcliff 5-21.

Passing — Homedale: Uranga 13-21-138, M. Kincheloe 1-1-0-47, Deal 1-1-0-14. Baker: Shirtcliff 15-34-4-229.

Receiving — Homedale: Brown 5-110, Deal 5-31, Lomeli 2-23, Mertz 1-15, Collett 1-15, Shanley 1-9. Baker: Flanagan 7-66, Smith 5-22, Gambleton 1-66, Myer 1-22, Schwin 1-12.

OREGON DUCK FOOTBALL

Herbert's four TDs lead Ducks by PSU

By Anne M. Peterson
AP Sports Writer

EUGENE — Justin Herbert has thrown nine touchdown passes to six receivers through two games this season. The Oregon quarterback is just fine with spreading it around.

"I don't think we need that one go-to guy," Herbert. "I think we've got so many weapons that just getting them the ball in general is a bonus. My job is just to get them the ball and let them do the work."

Herbert threw for 250 yards and four touchdowns before heading to the bench in the third quarter, and No. 23 Oregon routed Portland State 62-14 on Saturday.

It was the 22nd straight nonconference win for the Ducks (2-0). Herbert, who completed 20 of 26 passes against the Vikings, now has 10 total touchdowns — nine passing and one on the ground — so far in his junior season.

Portland State (0-2) has lost 15 consecutive games dating to 2016, including eight straight on the road. The FCS-level Vikings went 0-11 last season and have allowed 134 total points in their two games this year.

Portland State quarterback Jalani Eason threw for 111 yards and two touchdowns, but he was also sacked four times by Oregon's defense. Charlie Taumoepeau caught five passes for 125 yards and both TDs for his second straight game with more than 100 yards receiving.

"We got Herbert-ed. Justin Herbert: Everything we thought he was and more. Honestly. He got them at every third down, he threw through windows this big," said Portland State coach Bruce Barnum, making a square with his hands about the size of a football. "We

knew that he was good."

Tony Brooks-James ran for 107 yards and two scores, while freshman CJ Verdell ran for 106 yards and another TD against the Vikings.

Herbert also led the Ducks' offense efficiently in a 58-24 victory over Bowling Green last week, passing for 281 yards and five touchdowns and running for 41 yards and another score.

All of Herbert's touchdowns against Portland State came in the first half.

His first was an 18-yard strike to Jaylon Redd. He then added a 9-yard toss to Tabari Hines that capped an 8-play, 99-yard drive to make it 14-0 after the first quarter.

Kano Dillon caught a 20-yard scoring pass to stretch the Ducks' lead. Eason connected with Taumoepeau on a 71-yard touchdown to narrow the gap.

Taumoepeau also scored in the Vikings' opener on a pair of catches that covered 48 and 75 yards, for his second career game with 100-plus receiving yards.

Cyrus Habibi-Likio ran for a 1-yard score and Johnny Johnson III added an 11-yard TD catch to give the Ducks a 35-7 lead at the half.

Brooks-James had a 1-yard scoring run to open the second half for Oregon, before freshman Travis Dye's long 42-yard TD dash. Dye is the younger brother of Oregon inside linebacker Troy Dye.

"I give all credit to the blocking," the younger Dye said. "Because it was just ridiculous. Any one of us could have run through that hole."

Backup quarterback Braxton Burmeister replaced Herbert for the final drive of the third quarter. Brooks-James

added a second 1-yard TD dive with 5:16 left in the game before Verdell's 2-yard run capped the scoring.

"I thought we did some really good things today," Herbert said. "Definitely there are some things we need to clean up, but I thought overall we made a step forward from last week and we'll look at film and we'll get better."

WHEN TO PULL THE QB

Coach Mario Cristobal pulled Herbert last week against Bowling Green, only to reinsert him when the Ducks couldn't move the ball well. This week Cristobal waited until the end of the third quarter.

"When we feel we've accomplished what want to offensively, when we feel like we have the momentum of the game, we've seen enough of what we wanted to see," Cristobal explained about his reasoning.

Oregon freshman Tyler Shough also saw a series on Saturday.

THE TAKEAWAY

Portland State: The Vikings are opening the season with two FBS-level teams. Portland State is 4-37 against the top division, with two of those wins coming in 2015 against Washington State and North Texas under Barnum. ... Portland State will make more than \$500,000 for playing the Ducks, Barnum said this week.

Oregon: The Ducks blanked the Vikings 69-0 the last time the two teams met in 2010. Overall, Oregon now leads the series 5-0. ... It's the first time Oregon has had back-to-back 50-point games since 2014. ... Oregon had 562 yards in total offense while holding the Vikings to 224 yards.

U.S. TENNIS MENS FINAL

Djokovic tops del Potro for 14th Slam

By Howard Fendrich
AP Tennis Writer

NEW YORK — The U.S. Open final suddenly appeared to be slipping away from Novak Djokovic. He dropped three consecutive games. He was angered by a crowd roaring for his popular opponent, Juan Martin del Potro. He was, in short, out of sorts.

And then came Sunday's pivotal game, a 20-minute, 22-point epic. Three times, del Potro was a point from break-

ing and earning the right to serve to make it a set apiece. Three times, Djokovic steered himself. Eventually, he seized that game — and del Potro's best chance to make a match of it.

A year after missing the U.S. Open because of an injured right elbow that would require surgery, Djokovic showed that he is unquestionably back at his best and back at the top of tennis. His returns and defense-to-offense skills as

impeccable as ever, Djokovic collected his 14th Grand Slam title and second in a row by getting through every crucial moment for a 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-3 victory over 2009 champion del Potro at Flushing Meadows.

Djokovic was better than del Potro on their many lengthy exchanges, using his trademark body-twisting, limply-playing court coverage to get to nearly every ball, sneakers squeaking around the blue court in Arthur Ashe Stadium,

where the roof was closed because of rain.

This was Djokovic's third championship in New York, along with those in 2011 and 2015. Add in the trophies he has earned at six Australian Opens, one French Open and four Wimbledon, most recently in July, and the 31-year-old Serb pulled even with Pete Sampras for the third-most majors among men, trailing only Roger Federer's 20 and Rafael Nadal's 17.

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