

Sports

BAKER GIRLS SOCCER

Bulldogs blank Umatilla, 5-0

By **Gerry Steele**
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Baker tuned up for the Class 4A girls soccer playoffs with a 5-0 nonleague shutout of Umatilla Tuesday at the Baker Sports Complex.

The win improves Baker's season record to 7-5-2. The Bulldogs now await the OSAA pairings which will be announced Thursday morning.

Baker took a 2-0 first-half lead on goals by Alayna Calaway and Kaitlyn Nelson.

Calaway scored first when the Umatilla keeper mis-played the ball in front of the net and Calaway tapped the ball in for the score.

Nelson's goal was an arching shot from the left of the goal.

Rose Gwillim and Sydney Younger each scored in the second half. Gwillim's goal came on a header in front of the net. Younger scored on another arching shot from the corner.

Mary Rushton completed the Baker scoring later in the half when she scored on a free kick from the left of the goal.



Kathy Orr/Baker City Herald

Baker's Mary Rushton works against a Umatilla defender Tuesday. Rushton scored the last of Baker's 5 goals in a shutout win at the Sports Complex.

Griffin scores career-high 50 as Pistons win

By **Matt Schoch**
Associated Press

DETROIT — Blake Griffin has heard the critics, but the veteran forward knows it'll take more nights like Tuesday to get where his team wants to go.

Griffin scored a career-high 50 points and had the game-

winner after he was fouled on a driving layup with 1.8 seconds left as Detroit topped Philadelphia 133-132 in a wild overtime thriller.

Riddled with injuries during his last few years with the Los Angeles Clippers and then traded last season by his first pro team, Griffin has

talked this offseason after proving something.

Point proven.

"The past two or three years, all I hear about is how bad I am," Griffin said. "It's a big win, but we've got to move on. This is game three and now we've got to move on to game four."

The Pistons are 3-0 for the first time since 2015-16, the last time they made the playoffs, topping the 76ers, who were without Ben Simmons, nursing back tightness.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

LeBron misses two late FTs as Lakers fall to 0-3

By **Greg Beacham**
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — LeBron James hit the tying 3-pointer late in regulation. He led a Lakers lineup of three second-year pros and a rookie making his NBA debut to a 142-136 lead with 55 seconds left overtime.

James was then reminded in spectacular fashion that nothing will be easy in this West Coast chapter of his career.

Patty Mills hit a go-ahead jumper with 6.8 seconds left and the San Antonio Spurs kept the Lakers winless with LeBron, rallying from a six-point deficit in the final minute of OT for a wild 143-142 victory Monday night.

James tied it on a magisterial 3 with 2.4 seconds left in regulation, and he finished his second Lakers home game with 32 points, 14 assists and eight rebounds.

But the superstar missed two free throws with 12.8 seconds to play before Mills coolly put the Spurs ahead. James then missed a step-back 3-pointer at the buzzer, thoroughly deflating Staples Center as the Lakers fell to the first 0-3 start in James' career since his second season with Cleveland in 2004-05.

Pelicans top Clippers

By **Brett Martel**
AP Sports Writer

NEW ORLEANS — Anthony Davis did exactly what New Orleans has come to expect and Pelicans newcomer Elfrid Payton showed his hometown more of what he has to offer when clutch play is in demand.

Davis highlighted a 34-point, 13-rebound, five-block performance with a left-wing 3 with less than two minutes remaining. Payton added a back-breaking 3 in the final minute of his first 20-point performance for the Pelicans, and New Orleans remained unbeaten through three games with a 116-109 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers on Tuesday night.

"This was our best win," of the three to start the season, Payton said. "We fought adversity and found a way to win. It felt good just to close out the game."

After routing its first two opponents, New Orleans won for the first time when Nikola Mirotic struggled from 3-point range. He was 0-for-6 from deep, but still managed to score 18 points and grab 12 rebounds.

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