

# Sports

## BAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL



Lisa Britton / For The Baker City Herald

Nadia Ritch, left, and Mikayla Hatfield play defense in a recent intramural basketball game at Baker Middle School. Soroptimist International of Baker County purchased new uniforms for the intramural team so all three basketball teams now match.

## Donated uniforms makes it a match for BMS hoops

By Lisa Britton  
For the Baker City Herald

All girls who play basketball at Baker Middle School now sport the same uniforms thanks to a donation from Soroptimist International of Baker County.

"What sparked it was our Pepsi booth fundraiser," said Kelly Tanzey, president-elect of the Soroptimist Club.

Each summer, the club sets up a Pepsi booth at the bronc and bull riding event during Miners Jubilee. Volunteers are sometimes hard to come by during that busy time, but this past summer brought several middle school girls to help serve the soda.

"They were amazing help," Tanzey said.

In the course of conversation, she learned that the intramural girls basketball team didn't have matching uniforms.

"Some didn't have matching tops, or matching bottoms," said Candace Hoskins-Patton, who coaches the intramural team with Jimmy Howerton. "It didn't look like a team."

And the uniforms they did have did not match the ones worn by the seventh- and eighth-grade traveling teams.

Tanzey said she's read studies about how girls' self-esteem drops by middle school and she, along with the other members of Soroptimist, saw the value in the intramural team.

"This intramural team is so cool because

it doesn't turn away any girl," Tanzey said. "Soroptimist is all about empowering women and girls."

The club voted to buy 40 new uniforms for the intramural team. Alan McCauley, dean of students, ordered uniforms that match the rest of the girls basketball program.

"It's been wonderful to have all the uniforms matching," McCauley said.

"They were super excited," Hoskins-Patton said of the team. "When we took down the tubs for them to pick their number, they said 'these are so nice!'"

She said the team's 17 players were also honored to have their team photo taken with members of the Soroptimist Club.

The uniforms are reversible — one side is purple, the other is white. The intramural team travels twice during the season, and also plays the North Powder team.

The intramural team includes both seventh- and eighth-graders.

### Soroptimists

Tanzey said the club's Pepsi booth fundraiser brings in between \$2,000 and \$4,000 to fund scholarships, community projects and awards.

She said volunteers are always appreciated. Those interested in helping can call Tanzey at 541-519-8800 or Barbara Stiff at 541-519-5524.

## OREGON MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Ducks squander late lead in loss to Washington

EUGENE (AP) — David Crisp knew Washington had the right man at the line with the score tied and mere seconds on the clock.

Still, the senior guard chose his words carefully to describe Husky sophomore Jaylen Nowell's heroics.

Nowell scored 20 points, capped by three free throws with 1.6 seconds left, and Washington weathered a furious Oregon rally to escape 61-56 on Thursday night.

"First off, this is a bad

— I wish I could say it — this is a bad boy," Crisp said with Nowell standing next to him. "He's one of the clutchest players I've played with and one of the clutchest I've seen."

Nowell was fouled on a desperation 3-point try after Payton Pritchard lost the ball as the Ducks were trying to set up for a final shot with the score at 56. Pritchard then hit Nowell on the arm as he rose to shoot on the run from about 30 feet.

Louis King had 19

points to lead the Ducks (11-8, 2-4), and Miles Norris added 10 off the bench. Oregon lost a fourth home game in Matthew Knight Arena for the first time since it opened in 2011.

Washington survived despite committing 12 of its 19 turnovers in the second half against Oregon's relentless full-court pressure.

The Huskies led 51-42 before Pritchard led the Ducks on a 14-0 run over 6 minutes to go up 56-51, but Oregon never scored again.

## Lillard leads Blazers to win

By Bob Baum  
AP Sports Writer

PHOENIX — It took a while, but the Portland Trail Blazers finally did what they were supposed to do with the depleted Phoenix Suns.

Damian Lillard scored 24 points, CJ McCollum and Jake Layman added 20 apiece and the Trail Blazers pulled away in the second half to hand the Suns their sixth straight loss, 120-106 on Thursday night.

The Trail Blazers beat Phoenix for the ninth straight time. Portland has won four of five and eight of 11 overall.

"First half was frustrating," Blazers coach Terry Stotts said. "We missed a lot of shots at the rim early on. We gave up too many transition points in the first quarter. We played much better in the second half, obviously."

Seth Curry had 17 points and Jusuf Nurkic 16 for Portland.

Devin Booker scored 27 for the Suns but only nine after the first quarter. Kelly Oubre Jr. added 18 on 6-of-18 shooting. Dragan Bender, forced into the starting center role due to injuries, had 17.

The Suns were without rookie center Deandre Ayton (sprained left ankle) and backup Richaun Holmes (right foot sprain) for the third straight game. T.J. Warren also sat out with a sore right ankle, and Suns starting point guard De'Anthony Melton left in the third quarter with a sprained right ankle.

What was left of the Suns stayed with the Blazers through much of the game.

Booker shot 6 of 9, including 2 of 4 on 3-pointers, in his 18-point first quarter and the Suns led 31-30 after one. With McCollum on the bench with three fouls, Phoenix stretched the lead to 47-41 on Josh Jackson's coast-to-coast drive with 5:52 left in the half.

## BAKER WRESTLING



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Baker's MaHonri Rushton, right, wrestling at 182 pounds, won by a fall against La Grande during the Tuesday match at BHS. Thursday, against Nyssa, Rushton was penalized two points for stalling and dropped a 4-3 decision.

## Nyssa edges Baker

By Gerry Steele  
gsteele@bakercityherald.com

Baker's final home wrestling of the season was expected to be an exciting, tough match.

The action didn't disappoint the fans, although the outcome did.

Baker, ranked fifth in the Class 4A rankings, built a 30-12 lead with seven matches remaining.

Nyssa, ranked No. 1 in the Class 3A ranks, then won six of the next seven matches to take a 39-36 decision. Baker's lone win during that stretch was a forfeit win by Gauge Bloomer.

"The close matches hurt us," said Baker coach Bran-

don Young.

Young said a key match for the Bulldogs came at 182 pounds.

Baker's Hon Rushton led 3-0 after two rounds. But Rushton was assessed two penalty points in the third round for stalling. His Nyssa opponent then earned a two-point takedown with 1 second left to take a 4-3 decision.

"Hon needs to get into those kind of pressure matches," Young said.

"It's not something that you can recreate in practice. He's just going to have to learn from these kinds of matches if he wants to work toward a state title."

Pins by Gavin Stone at 106 pounds, and Alex Duran (132) and a trio of Nyssa forfeits gave Baker a 30-12 lead midway through the match.

Nyssa then took over. "Nyssa is especially tough from 152 to heavyweight," Young said.

"They're animals." Baker travels to Grant Union today.

**Nyssa 39, Baker 36**  
106 — Stone (B) pinned Rojas. 113 — I. Duran (B) by forfeit. 120 — Peterson (N) pinned M. Duran. 126 — Nierus (B) by forfeit. 132 — A. Duran (B) pinned Murdock. 138 — Anderson (B) by forfeit. 145 — McDowell (N) dec. Eskew, 6-5. 152 — Cleaver (N) pinned Davila. 160 — Woodruff (N) dec. Feldmeier, 7-0. 170 — Bloomer (B) by forfeit. 182 — Simpson (N) dec. Rushton, 4-3. 195 — Flores (N) pinned Ritter. 220 — Lopex (N) pinned Yervasi. 285 — Sanchez (N) pinned Gonzalez.

## OREGON STATE MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Beavers handle Washington St.

CORVALLIS (AP) — Oregon State rebounded from a dismal 0-2 road trip by, well, rebounding.

The Beavers have won the battle of the boards almost all season long, but both Arizona schools outrebounded Oregon State last week. So the squad worked on crashing the glass, said forward Tres Tinkle.

"It's nice to get back on top of that. It's something we focused on and we made it count for sure," Tinkle added.

Stephen Thompson Jr. had 22 points, with four 3-pointers, six rebounds and seven assists as Oregon State defeated Washington State

90-77 on Thursday night.

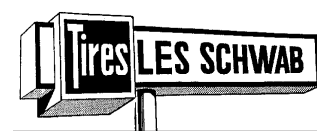
Tinkle had 21 points and four steals and Ethan Thompson added 20 points and six assists for the Beavers (12-6, 4-2 Pac-12).

"For a lot of minutes we played some good basketball,

shared it, moved it, attacked, defended," said Oregon State coach Wayne Tinkle.

C.J. Elleby scored 21 points, all in the second half, and Robert Franks Jr. had 20 points and eight rebounds for the Cougars (8-11, 1-5).

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