

Sports

Baker Boys, Girls Claim Greater Oregon League Basketball Championships



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Caden Long scored 10 points Tuesday night as Baker held off Mac-Hi 51-34 to claim the Greater Oregon League championship.

Baker boys turn back pesky Mac-Hi

By Gerry Steele
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Baker pulled away in the second half to stop Mac-Hi 51-34 in the Greater Oregon League boys basketball championship game Tuesday at BHS.

“Our team realized what was at stake and played extremely unselfish,” Baker coach Jebron Jones said.

“I believe they played for each other whether they played a lot of minutes or didn’t play much,” Jones said.

“There were a few times when they passed up a good shot for a great shot.”

Jones noted the Bulldogs

“Our team realized what was at stake and played extremely unselfish.”

— Baker Coach Jebron Jones

had 14 assists on 18 baskets made.

Five Bulldogs scored in the first quarter as Baker posted an 11-4 advantage at the break.

Mac-Hi’s Dareagan Stephens then scored nine of his 12 points in the second period to cut Baker’s lead to 20-18 at halftime.

Baker answered in the third quarter when Kaden Sand and Gabe Gambleton

each scored eight points, including combining for four three-point baskets.

Baker entered the fourth quarter leading 38-25. Mac-Hi never got closer than 11 points after that.

Sand led Baker with 19 points. Gambleton added 12, and Caden Long 10.

Baker will open the Class 4A state playoffs at home the first weekend of March. Date, time and opponent have not been set.

MAC-HI (34)

Sand 7 2-3 19, Gambleton 3 4-4 12, Flanagan 1 1-2 3, Nelson, Hill, Mestrude, Schwinn 1 0-0 3, Long 4 2-5 10, Smith, Van Arsdall 2 0-0 4. Totals 18 9-14 51.

Mac-Hi 4 14 7 9 — 34
Baker 11 9 18 13 — 51

Three-point baskets — Stephens 3, Ruiz, Sand 3, Gambleton 2, Schwinn. Fouled out — none. Total fouls — Mac-Hi 17, Baker 11. Technicals — none.



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Jayne Ramos scored 15 points Tuesday night to lead Baker to a 53-36 win over La Grande in the Greater Oregon League championship game.

Girls overcome sluggish start to race past La Grande

By Gerry Steele
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Baker’s offense sputtered for a while in the first half, but some halftime adjustments — and the return of a starter from foul trouble — lifted the Bulldogs to a 53-36 win over La Grande in the Greater Oregon League girls basketball championship game Tuesday night at BHS.

Baker led just 21-19 at halftime and allowed La Grande to tie the game at 21-21 with its first basket of the second half.

Baker then shifted gears.

Sydney Younger, who missed much of the first half after picking up three fouls, exploded for a dozen points in the third quarter as Baker outscored La Grande 21-7 to take a 42-26 lead.

Younger had gone scoreless in her very abbreviated first-half action.

“It took us a while to get going,” Baker coach Mat Sand said. “I keep telling the girls we have to learn to play four quarters.

“We adjusted our defense in the second

half and wore La Grande down.”

Sand said Younger’s return in the second half was a key.

“Sydney Younger played really hard in the second half,” he said.

Rose Gwillim scored six points, and Jayme Ramos five as Baker built a 13-8 first-quarter lead.

La Grande then answered behind six points from Ella Dunlap to pull within 21-19 at halftime.

Ramos led Baker with 15 points.

Younger added 14 and Gwillim 12.

Baker will open the Class 4A state playoffs in early March at home. The date, time and opponent have not been determined.

LA GRANDE (36)

Collins 2 2-4 7, Gomes, Rinker, Chamberlain 0 2-3 2, Wiggins 2 0-0 4, Williams 2 1-2 5, Dunlap 6 0-0 12, Dahle, Neer 2 0-0 4, Reagan 1 0-0 2. Totals 15 5-9 36.

BAKER (53)

Elms, Keller 3 0-3 6, Younger 5 3-4 14, Ramos 5 2-2 15, Carter, Nemeo 3 0-0 6, Benson, Gwillim 5 2-2 12. Totals 21 7-11 53.

La Grande 8 11 7 10 — 36

Baker 13 8 21 11 — 53

Three-point baskets — Collman, Younger, Ramos 3. Fouled out — none. Total fouls — La Grande 11, Baker 14. Technicals — none.

WOMEN’S COLLEGE BASKETBALL CIVIL WAR

Beavers avenge loss to Ducks

By Anne M. Peterson
AP Sports Writer

CORVALLIS — The outcome of that first game against the Ducks didn’t sit so well with the Beavers.

Following a loss to Oregon in Eugene on

Friday night, Aleah Goodman had 22 points and No. 12 Oregon State snapped the No. 2 Ducks’ 17-game winning streak with a 67-62 victory before a sellout crowd at home on Monday night.

“We were right there in Friday night’s game, and we knew we didn’t play our best game,” Goodman said. “So that was definitely a huge motivation factor for us, and then obviously playing in front of our family — this is all extended family to us.”

It was just the second loss of the season for the Ducks, who defeated the Beavers 77-68 on Friday in the first of the Civil War rivalry series. Oregon (24-2, 13-1 Pac-12) was hampered by the loss of starter Ruthy Hebard in the first half with what appeared to be a right knee injury.

Destiny Slocum finished with 20 points and the Beavers (21-5, 11-3) preserved their nine-game winning streak over the Ducks at Gill Coliseum. Oregon hasn’t won in Corvallis since 2010.

Sabrina Ionescu had 21 points for the Ducks, who moved up a spot to No. 2 in the AP rankings earlier in the day — Oregon’s best poll position in school history. The Beavers dropped from No. 9 following the loss in Eugene on Friday, the opening game of the Civil War rivalry series between the two teams.

“Give them credit they made plays down the stretch, made stops when they needed to, a couple of big baskets and they made their free throws,” Oregon coach Kelly Graves said. “That’s what a good team does. We’re both really good teams.”

It was a tense final period. Ionescu’s layup tied the game at 50 early in the fourth quarter, and her jumper pulled the Ducks in front with 6:23 left in the game as the Beavers went on an inopportune scoring drought.

But Mikayla Pivec’s layup for the Beavers tied it again with 4:25 to go and Slocum’s jumper gave them back the lead.

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