

Sports



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Joseph's Sabrina Albee goes up against St. Paul's Emma Connor on Thursday.

No. 1 St. Paul holds off Joseph

By Gerry Steele
gsteele@bakercityherald.com

Top-ranked and undefeated St. Paul held thwarted Joseph's late rally to earn a 42-37 quarterfinal win at the Class 1A state girls basketball tournament Thursday at Baker High School.

St. Paul (28-0) led the Eagles by a dozen points entering the fourth period.

But Joseph's Emma Hite scored eight points as the Eagles cut the deficit to 37-35 with 3:27 left in the game.

Then, still leading 40-37, St. Paul's Erin Counts stole the ball with 46 seconds left. Counts then hit two free throws with 23 seconds remaining to seal the win.

Isabelle Wyss led St. Paul with 13 points.

JOSEPH (37)
Hite 6 4-4 17 Albee 2 2-2 8, Miller 2 2-2 6, Nelson 1 1-6 3, Crenshaw 1 0-0 3, Goffman, Coughlan. Totals 12 9-14 37.
ST. PAUL (42)
Wyss 6 1-9 13, Connor 3 2-2 9, Counts 3 2-2 8, Southerland 2 0-0 6, Tuck 2 0-1 4, Hernandez 1 0-3 2, Gonzalez, Vela. Totals 17 5-17 42.
Joseph 9 9 5 14 — 37
St. Paul 10 13 12 7 — 42
Three-point baskets — Albee 2, Crenshaw, Hite, Southerland 2, Connor. **Fouled out** — Hite, Albee, Tuck.

Damascus rallies to beat Days Creek

By Gerry Steele
gsteele@bakercityherald.com

Noelle Wakefield's three-point basket with 3:48 left in the game helped Damascus Christian stop Days Creek 47-39 in the Class 1A state girls basketball quarterfinals Thursday at Baker High School.

Wakefield's basket gave Damascus Christian a 38-37 lead. Damascus Christian outscored Days Creek 7-2 the rest of the game.

Wakefield and Tory Webb each scored 14 points to lead Damascus Christian, which plays St. Paul in a semifinal tonight.

DAYS CREEK (39)
Michaels 4 1-7 10, J. Crume 2 5-8 10, K. Crume 3 1-7 7, Krucic 2 0-0 6, Jackson 2 1-4 6, Ferch, Ketchum, Newton. Totals 13 8-26 39.
DAMASCUS CHRISTIAN (47)
Wakefield 5 0-0 14, Webb 7 0-0 14, Patrick 5 0-2 11, Hale 2 0-0 5, Love 0 2-2 2, Powers 0 1-3 1, MacGibbon, Manning, Waters. Totals 15 3-7 47.
Days Creek 13 5 15 6 — 39
Damascus Christian 5 16 10 16 — 47
Three-point baskets — Krucic 2, Michaels, J. Crume, Jackson, Wakefield 4, Patrick, Hale. **Fouled out** — Manning.

GIRLS CLASS 1A STATE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



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Powder Valley Coach Allen Bingham encourages the Badgers during the district tournament two weeks ago. Powder Valley beat Crane 46-44 on Thursday to advance to the semifinals of the Class 1A state tournament at Baker High School.

Badgers turn back Crane

By Ronald Bond
The (La Grande) Observer

The Powder Valley Badgers girls basketball team got revenge again.

Belle Blair had 19 points and 10 rebounds, including the go-ahead layup with 1:53 to play, and the Badgers avenged an earlier loss to the Crane Mustangs with a nail-biting 46-44 victory Thursday night in the 1A state quarterfinals at Baker High School.

"It was a tight game the whole way," Badgers Coach Allen Bingham said. "Just what a playoff game should be, I think. We were evenly matched. They had some advantages in some things, and we had some advantages in some things."

Shelie Doman made a game-tying 3-pointer for Crane with less than three minutes to play. The teams then traded missed baskets before Blair got free for a layup — off an assist from her sister, Sonora Blair — for a 44-42 edge.

Belle Blair had a big game despite battling an illness

earlier in the week, Bingham said.

"She was sick Monday and Tuesday," the coach said. "Wednesday she was at practice and said she was all right. Today she said she was all right."

Autumn Davis and Megan Bingham both hit free throws to extend the Badger margin to four before things got crazy at the end. Riley Davis scored with 17 seconds left to get Crane within two. The Mustangs forced a turnover and had two shots to tie the game before time ran out. A third attempt by Riley Davis — which went in — came after the final buzzer.

Crane was one of just three teams to have beaten Powder Valley entering Thursday's game, having scored a 44-35 win when the teams met in December. The Badgers, as they did to Joseph two weeks ago, avenged the earlier loss in the game that mattered the most.

A 6-0 run by the Badgers, capped by a Bingham layup, tied the score at 15 with 5:13 to play in the half when the

cat-and-mouse game started. The back-and-forth contest was played in a four-point window until the early fourth quarter, with Crane on four occasions building a four-point lead only to have Powder Valley cut into the gap before Crane jumped ahead again. The teams were tied in the second and third quarters at 15, 26, 30, 32 and 34.

The Badgers finally pulled ahead for their first lead since the third quarter, 35-34, on a Josi Krieger free throw late in the third quarter.

They pushed the lead to 42-36 — their largest of the game — when Belle Blair scored twice in 22 seconds to open the final quarter.

Megan Bingham added 12 points and five steals for Powder Valley, which took advantage of a large free-throw disparity. The Badgers were 16-for-29, and the Mustangs were 5-for-10.

"Every one of the makes were huge," the Powder Valley coach said.

The Badgers (25-3) face Perrydale in the semifinals tonight at 6 o'clock.

Perrydale edges Jordan Valley

By Gerry Steele
gsteele@bakercityherald.com

Perrydale trailed Jordan Valley for nearly 90 percent of

the game Thursday.

But the Pirates rallied when they needed to. Amity Deters' basket with

51 seconds left in the game lifted Perrydale in front for good. The Pirates then scored an insurance basket with 17 seconds left on the way to a 31-28 win in the Class 1A state girls basketball quarterfinal game at Baker High School.

Jordan Valley led the entire game until Perrydale's Sydney Perkins hit a three-point basket with 1:55 left in the game.

Jordan Valley regained a 28-27 lead on two Emilee Burch free throws with 1:15 left. Deters then scored her game-winner.

PERRYDALE (31)
S. Lawrence 6 0-0 13, Perkins 3 0-0 7, Deters 3 0-0 6, K. Lawrence 2 0-0 5, Cruickshank, Rosenbalm, C. Lawrence, Luz. Totals 14 0-0 31.

JORDAN VALLEY (28)
Skinner 7 0-0 14, Terry 3 1-2 7, Quintero 2 0-0 4, Burch 0 2-2 2, Warm 0 1-2 1, Davis, Eguren, Gluch. Totals 12 4-6 28.

Perrydale 4 4 5 18 — 31
Jordan Valley 9 8 4 7 — 28

Three-point baskets — K. Lawrence, Perkins, S. Lawrence. **Fouled out** — none. **Total fouls** — Perrydale 10, Jordan Valley 10.

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