

Sports

BAKER BASEBALL



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Justin Miller stirs up a wet infield with a dive to third base. He later adds a score to the Bulldogs' 9-1 win against Mac-Hi Monday during the first game of their doubleheader.

Bulldogs sweep GOL pair

By Gerry Steele
gsteele@bakercityherald.com

Baker opened Greater Oregon League baseball play Monday by sweeping Mac-Hi 9-1 and 20-0 in a doubleheader at the Baker Sports Complex.

Baker (2-0 in the GOL) rode the one-hit pitching of Sam McCauley to the first-game win.

"Sam threw real well," said Baker coach Tim Smith.

McCauley struck out 11 Pioneers in six innings. Gavin Curry pitched a perfect seventh.

Offensively, Baker scored in every inning but the first.

"We didn't come out of the gate as well as we could have," Smith said.

"One of our goals is to win every inning."

Mason Van Arsdall, Jack Rohner and Justin Miller each finished the game with two RBI.

In Game 2, Baker used a 10-run second inning to break the game open.

Winning pitcher Connor Lay and Spencer Shirtcliff each drove in four runs, and Van Arsdall three.

Lay threw a three-hitter, striking out eight.

The Bulldogs return to GOL action Friday when they play host to La Grande.

First game
Mac-Hi 0 0 0 0 1 0 — 1
Baker 0 3 2 1 2 1 x — 9
McCauley, Curry (7) and Van Arsdall. WP — McCauley.

Baker hits — Linscott 2, Bennett, McCauley 2, Van Arsdall 2, Lay, Smith, Rohner 2, Miller 2. **Baker RBI** — Bennett, Van Arsdall 2, Smith, Rohner 2, Miller 2.

2B — Van Arsdall, Miller.
Second game
Mac-Hi 0 0 0 0 0 — 0
Baker 4 10 6 0 x — 20
Lay and Van Arsdall, Rohner (5). WP — Lay.

Baker hits — Linscott, McCauley, Van Arsdall 2, Braschler, Lay 3, Shirtcliff 4, Smith. **Baker RBI** — Linscott, Curry, McCauley 2, Van Arsdall 3, Braschler 2, Lay 4, Shirtcliff 4, Smith. **2B** — Linscott, Van Arsdall, Lay 2, Shirtcliff 2.

Baker remains perfect at 10-0

By Gerry Steele
gsteele@bakercityherald.com

Baker outslugged Hometown, Idaho's fourth-ranked Class 3A team, 16-6 Tuesday

in a nonleague baseball game at the Baker Sports Complex.

The result improved the Class 4A fifth-ranked Bulldogs' season record to 10-0.

"The kids answered the call in every inning," said Baker coach Tim Smith.

Smith said the strong northwest wind played a role in much of the scoring.

"We continued to hit the ball all the way through our lineup," he said.

Hometown had two home runs, including a two-run shot in the top of the first. That put Baker behind for one of the few times this year.

However, it didn't take the Bulldogs long to answer. Baker scored eight times in the bottom of the first, sparked by a Dawson Linscott grand slam. Linscott finished a triple short of hitting for the cycle. He drove in five runs.

The Bulldogs finished with 16 hits, including six for extra bases.

Gavin Curry was the winning pitcher with relief help from Spencer Shirtcliff.

Hometown 2 0 0 3 1 — 6
Baker 8 1 2 4 1 — 16
Curry, Shirtcliff (5) and Van Arsdall. WP — Curry.

Baker hits — Linscott 3, Bennett 3, McCauley, Van Arsdall 2, Lay 2, Shirtcliff 2, Smith, Miller 2. **Baker RBI** — Linscott 5, Bennett 2, McCauley, Shirtcliff, Smith, Rohner, Miller 2. **2B** — Linscott, Shirtcliff. **3B** — Bennett, Van Arsdall, Lay. **HR** — Linscott.

BAKER SOFTBALL



S. John Collins / Baker City Herald

Natalie Nelson looks to hold a Mac-Hi runner at third base during a chilly game with persistent afternoon rain Monday at the Sports Complex.

Baker drops GOL opener

By Gerry Steele
gsteele@bakercityherald.com

Baker's elusive Greater Oregon League softball opener finally got played, sort of, Monday at the Baker Sports Complex.

The games were originally scheduled Saturday at Mac-Hi. Weather caused a change that called for softball to be played at Mac-Hi and baseball at Baker. But, Mac-Hi's fields were not playable so the games were moved to Baker.

Weather continued to play havoc with action, and the softball players were able to only get half the doubleheader in Monday.

Mac-Hi defeated the Bulldogs 15-1 in that game. The second game will be made up May 7.

Baker trailed just 3-1 entering the top of the seventh. Mac-Hi then erupted for 12 runs.

Baker managed just four hits, all singles.

Baker's nonleague game scheduled Tuesday at Weiser, Idaho, was postponed until April 26.

Mac-Hi 0 0 0 2 0 1 12 — 15
Baker 0 0 0 0 1 0 — 1
B. Davis and N. Nelson. LP — B. Davis.
Baker hits — Gwillim, Calaway, B. Davis, J. Davis. **Baker RBI** — none.

BAKER TENNIS

Baker sweeps Vikings

By Gerry Steele
gsteele@bakercityherald.com

Baker pulled off a rarity at Vale Tuesday, sweeping both the boys and girls tennis matches against the Vikings.

"It was a fun afternoon," said Baker coach Kristin Schwin.

"We haven't swept both the boys and girls matches against Vale very often."

Tuesday, Baker won both matches 3-2.

In the girls match, Hannah Johnson and Gabbie Trebilcock won their singles matches in straight sets.

Andrea Pettit then completed the Baker singles sweep by splitting the first two sets before rallying for

a 15-13 super tie-breaker in the third set.

In boys action, Zach Schwin, Shane Cunningham and Alex Davila swept the singles matches.

Coach Schwin said Pettit's match and the boys doubles match lost by Baker's Isaac Nemece and Luke Barnes were highlights of the afternoon.

Nemece and Barnes lost the doubles match in three sets against Vale's top doubles team.

"Those were Vale's good players," Schwin said. "There were several long points. The match was a 2½-hour match."

Baker returns to the Treasure Valley today,

when the Bulldogs travel to Ontario.

The match was originally scheduled in Baker on Monday, then was moved to today. But it also had to be moved to Ontario because Baker's courts are not available today. Ontario will visit Baker April 26.

Baker at Vale
Girls singles
Johnson (B) def. Milleson 7-5, 6-2
Trebilcock (B) def. Bruton 6-3, 6-2
Pettit (B) def. McGourty 6-2, 3-6, 15-13

Girls doubles
Wolfe/DeLong (M) def. Finley/Dalke 6-3, 6-1
Scheffeld/Kesay (M) def. Macias/Woodward 6-1, 6-4

Boys singles
Schwin (B) def. McKrola 6-2, 6-1
Cunningham (B) def. Reed 6-0, 6-0
Davila (B) def. Gonzales 6-1, 6-0

Boys doubles
Ramirez/Carlson (M) def. Nemece/Barnes 7-6 (8-6), 3-6, 2-6
Kelso/Leyva (M) def. Cowan/Lien 6-3, 6-3

Harkless' buzzer-beater gives Blazers win in L.A., home court in playoffs

By Greg Beacham
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — After Magic Johnson shockingly quit his job as the Lakers' president of basketball operations right before the game, the Lakers certainly didn't play like a franchise in turmoil.

Maurice Harkless and the Portland Trail Blazers snared a huge win anyway.

Harkless hit a corner 3-pointer at the buzzer, and the Trail Blazers secured home-court advantage in the first round of the playoffs with a 104-101 victory Tuesday night after Johnson's abrupt resignation.

Johnson stunned the Lakers with his announcement about 90 minutes before tipoff of the last game in the team's sixth consecutive losing season. The Hall of Fame guard had been in charge of the Lakers for just 26 months, and his departure throws the 16-time NBA champion franchise's offseason into upheaval even before it began.

Yet the Lakers nursed a fourth-quarter lead against the Blazers, who needed this victory much more. After Harkless tied it on a layup with 33 seconds left and Seth Curry stole the ball from Alex Caruso, Damian Lillard and C.J. McCollum got the ball down to Harkless, who didn't miss.

"Mo had been scoring and hitting shots the whole quarter," said Lillard, who finished with 20 points and eight assists. "He's had a lot of moments when he came up big for us. The way he rose up and took that shot showed a lot of confidence, and you see what the result was."

Harkless scored 26 points and 16 rebounds while the Blazers rallied in the fourth quarter to claim their 52nd win of the season. The Blazers wrapped up home court for their first-round series against the Utah Jazz — or against another opponent if they can sneak into the third seed today.

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