

Sports

BAKER GIRLS SOCCER

La Grande Tigers blank Bulldogs

By Ronald Bond

The (La Grande) Observer

LA GRANDE — The La Grande Tigers were generating constant pressure and scoring opportunities, but for much of the first half couldn't break through against the Baker Bulldogs' defense.

La Grande led 2-0 at the break, but it easily could have been a five- or six-goal margin, especially considering the Tigers had 20 shots in the first half and dominated possession.

"It wasn't our best connective possession play, but we played well," head coach Sam Brown said. "I think the second half we came back better."

La Grande, though, finally broke the game wide open with three second half goals on the way to a 5-0 win over the Bulldogs Saturday in their Greater Oregon League opener.

"When you get a couple goals ahead, (you're) able to calm down and relax a bit. The confidence increases, the touches improve," Brown said.

The Tigers needed only nine minutes to get on the scoreboard when Audrey Garlitz dribbled in and scored from about 10 yards out.

What followed was a run of missed opportunities. A few shots missed wide but most were stopped by Baker goalkeeper Shayna Ruby, who had 10 first-half saves and 17 total to keep the Bulldogs in the match.

"Shayna is an amazing goalie," Baker head coach Kristen Rushton said. "She



Ronald Bond /The (La Grande) Observer

Baker's Taylor Gyllenberg, left, makes a play to keep the ball away from La Grande's Audrey Garlitz Saturday.

has a brilliant ability to read the ball and to know where her goal is behind her, which is very uncommon in high school play."

Several of Ruby's saves were made on point-blank shots, including a save on a run-in by Garlitz where the two met at the ball almost simultaneously and Ruby made the stop.

"She did really well, and some of them were really good saves, right in the corner," La Grande's Katie Perry said of Ruby. "She did a good job."

Perry's goal from 11 yards out in the 35th minute gave the Tigers some breathing room, and the Tigers netted

"Shayna is an amazing goalie. She has a brilliant ability to read the ball and to know where the goal is behind here, which is very uncommon in high school."

— Baker girls soccer coach Kristen Rushton, talking about goalkeeper Shayna Ruby, who had 17 saves Saturday

three goals in a 12-minute span in the second half to turn the game into a rout as Lindsay Adkins, Rosie Aguilera and Starra Ullman each scored.

"I feel like whenever we score our first goal we start playing a little bit better, we start playing a little bit more confidently. It still took us a long time to score after that," Perry said. "Once we got into the second half we got it going, especially the first part of

the second half."

The Tigers' defense turned in a third straight shutout and fourth on the season — all coming at home. La Grande allowed just two shots on goal, and Alexyss Chamberlain and Brenna Strand recorded a save in each half — Strand's coming on a leaping stop on a Baker free kick.

Even though it may not have shown, in that it became a one-sided game on the

scoreboard, Rushton was pleased with the effort of her team Saturday.

"The La Grande team is a great team. They have great control, they are really aggressive and they play soccer well," she said. "It was a great game today. It was very respectable, even though the score was 5-0, the goals they made were beautiful goals, but I feel like we held them really well."

Brown commended Baker's effort on defense.

"They played well defensively, very similar to Umatilla. She had them well organized," he said.

Baker (1-4 overall, 0-1 GOL) hosts Nyssa Tuesday.

BAKER BOYS SOCCER

Baker falls to Tigers in GOL opener

By Ronald Bond

The (La Grande) Observer

LA GRANDE — The La Grande Tigers and Baker Bulldogs appeared destined for a tight contest in their Greater Oregon League opener at Community Stadium.

But one goal by the Tigers shortly after halftime swung the momentum and suddenly opened the floodgates.

James Thurman recorded a hat trick — with the first of those goals deflecting off a Baker defender and in — and La Grande scored five unanswered goals in the second half for a 5-0 win over the Bulldogs Saturday.

"We tried something in the first half to experiment, changing formations," La Grande head coach Sid Rangel said. "That didn't work, so we stuck with our original plan. We went back to that and started connecting passes, and things started working for us."

La Grande had an edge in possession and scoring opportunities in the first half, but was unable to break through. Baker goalkeeper Silas Carter played a role in that, registering five saves in the first 40 minutes, including a couple of impressive plays made on attempts by Callum Ebel and Westin Blake. The Bulldogs even seemed to have the momentum early in the second half as they set the tone in the first five minutes.

But in the 46th minute, Thurman's attempt that he said appeared to be headed wide glanced off a Baker defender and trickled home to break the stalemate and set off a snowball effect.

"I shot it, the opponent got a foot on it as I shot it. It was going wide, their



Ronald Bond /The (La Grande) Observer

Baker's Jamisun Rigueiro, far right, leaps for a header against La Grande's James Thurman during Saturday's match at La Grande. Baker's Jorge Duran, far left, awaits the outcome.

player was running back and hit the ball in the net," Thurman said.

Thurman fed a beautiful pass to Ebel for a goal seven minutes later for a 2-0 margin, then scored his second goal in the 60th minute immediately after La Grande seemed to catch a break. A corner kick by La Grande appeared to be sent out of bounds on a header by the Tigers, but they were granted another corner kick. Thurman took advantage, scoring on the

next corner for a three-goal lead.

"It's hard to say this, but a lot of times the refs play a part," Baker head coach Victor Benites said. "On the corner kick they put it out, and then he gives it back and they scored on that."

Thurman said the key for La Grande was settling down after halftime.

"The first half (was) super frantic, we were trying to be too quick," Thurman said. "We were going 100% the

entire time, which can be a detriment, surprisingly. The second half we calmed down, played some passes and once we got the first goal, the floodgates open."

Adam Remily and Thurman added late goals for the final margin and the blowout win.

"In our formation that we have as our base, that formation is crucial for us in our success, and we executed pretty well. It's meant to score goals," Rangel said.

The Tigers controlled possession and shots, putting 14 shots on goal on the afternoon. La Grande goalkeeper Jacob Huntsman stopped all five shots that came at him.

Carter finished with nine saves for Baker in the loss.

Baker (2-1-1 overall, 0-1 GOL) hosts Pendleton in a nonleague contest today.

WEEK AHEAD IN HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

MONDAY, SEPT. 23

■ **Boys soccer:** Pendleton at Baker, 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 24

■ **Volleyball:** Baker at La Grande, 6:30 p.m.

■ **Boys soccer:** Nyssa at Baker, 5 p.m.

■ **Girls soccer:** Nyssa at Baker, 3 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 25

■ **Volleyball:** Burnt River vs. Harper and Huntington, 3:30 p.m., Harper

THURSDAY, SEPT. 26

■ **Volleyball:** Imbler at Pine-Eagle, 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 27

■ **Volleyball:** Crane at Pine-Eagle, 4 p.m.; Elgin at Powder Valley, 4 p.m.

■ **Football:** Crane at Pine-Eagle, 2 p.m.; Baker at Ontario, 7 p.m. (MT); Elgin at Powder Valley, 7 p.m.; Huntington at Prairie City/Burnt River, 7 p.m.

■ **Cross country:** Baker Invitational, tba

SATURDAY, SEPT. 28

■ **Boys soccer:** Baker at Ontario, 2 p.m. (MT)

■ **Girls soccer:** Baker at Ontario, noon (MT)

AT A GLANCE

Net match moved

Baker's home non-league volleyball match with Weiser has been moved from today to Sept. 30 at BHS.

Eastern Oregon riders place well

Members of the Eastern Oregon Rodeo Team competed in three rodeos in August and September.

Michelle Williams of North Powder is second in girls all-around. Maggie Mackenzie of Baker is 11th.

Williams is first in barrels, eighth in breakaway roping, second in goats, 28th in team roping and second in girls cutting.

Mackenzie is fourth in breakaway roping, 13th in goats, ninth in team roping and first in girls cutting.

Kylie Siddoway is fourth in girls cutting.

Redlands defeats Linfield, 27-19

REDLANDS, Calif.

— Unranked Redlands earned its first victory over Linfield in nine tries, knocking off the No. 11 Wildcats 27-19 in a mistake-filled and penalty marred contest Saturday night at Ted Runner Stadium.

Linfield (1-1) fell into an early hole against the defending Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference champions and could never quite seize command. Redlands (3-0) snapped Linfield's current win streak of eight straight victories dating to September of last season.

Colorado nips Arizona State

TEMPE, Ariz. —

Colorado lost two of its best players in the first quarter and the attrition kept coming as one player after another went down.

But Steven Montez threw for 337 yards and had three touchdown passes to Tony Brown, and Colorado rallied for a 34-31 win over No. 24 Arizona State on Saturday night.

New message

To: Baker & Union Counties

Subject: Outstanding Computer Repair

Outstanding Computer Repair is providing personalized mobile in-home computer support in Baker City, and La Grande.

We are available Monday-Saturday from 7am-7pm. Please text or call 541-297-5831 to get on the schedule.

Send

We provide:

Windows 10 upgrade

Solid state drive installation that will speed up your computer

Tuneup

Printer install and setup

Fix wireless issues

Outstanding Computer Repair sells refurbished Laptops, desktops, all-in-ones and monitors. We always carry new printers, keyboards and mice.

Mobile Service

Outstanding Computer Repair

Any issue \$40 flat rate

Call or Text 24/7

Dale Bogardus

541-297-5831

ALL CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED