

Sports

POWDER VALLEY VOLLEYBALL

Powder Valley completes unbeaten league season

■ Badgers rebound from an injury to Belle Blair on Friday against Cove to win two matches on Saturday

NORTH POWDER — Powder Valley's volleyball team ended the regular season last weekend with a 29-1 record as the Class 1A No. 1 ranked team.

Thursday, traveling to Imbler, Powder won 25-12, 25-19, 25-16.

Following that match, Powder played Griswold, winning 25-7, 25-12, 25-13.

Friday the Badgers traveled to Cove, defeating the Leopards 25-20, 25-15, 25-16.

"Even through we came away with the win, we did suffer a major blow to our team, as Belle Blair was taken out of the game with a major ankle injury when she came down on an opponent's foot early in the third set," said Coach Marji Lind.

As Saturday dawned, the Badgers were faced with adversity and a new challenge of developing a new line-up for the two matches that awaited them that afternoon. This required that players accept new roles on the team.

The first game of the day was against Nixyaawii. Powder Valley defeated the Golden Eagles 25-6, 25-9, 25-12.

Powder Valley then faced the No. 2-ranked Union Bobcats from the 2A division.

Powder dropped the first set 25-27. The Badgers then took the next two sets in a row 25-18, 25-18.

In the fourth set, Powder got off to a rocky start and ended up losing 18-25.

The fifth and final set, the Badgers won 15-8.

"It was amazing volleyball played by both teams," Lind said. "The energy in the gym was electrifying and the look of love, accomplishment and unity among those 10 fantastic young women was utter satisfaction. It is amazing what a team can accomplish together"

Next up for the Badgers is the district tournament, which will take place at La Grande High School, Saturday, Oct. 26. Times have yet to be determined.

BAKER BOYS SOCCER



Nico Helmreich in action against Ontario Saturday.

Kathy Orr/Baker City Herald

Ontario defeats Bulldogs

By Gerry Steele
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Ontario put up a roadblock for Baker's Greater Oregon League boys soccer playoff hopes Saturday, defeating

the Bulldogs 3-1 at the Baker Sports Complex.

Ontario scored twice in the first half to take a 2-0 halftime edge.

The deficit could have been worse except for some sparkling defensive moves by Baker.

Ontario had a shot carom off the crossbar, had Baker defender Dakota Rilee make

a save in front of the net as keeper Silas Carter recovered from one of several sliding and diving saves.

Ontario then increased its lead to 3-0 in the second half before Brylan Robb scored for the Bulldogs.

Baker (1-4 in GOL play) hosts Mac-Hi Saturday at 2 p.m. in its final regular season match.

PAC-12 FOOTBALL

WSU tops Colorado

PULLMAN, Wash. (AP) — After a few frustrating weeks, Washington State coach Mike Leach was pleased to see the Cougars play with a level of consistency that has been absent.

"Consistency and the mental toughness to stay focused from one play to the next," Leach said. "Everyone wants to get ahead of themselves but all you have is that one play in the present moment and you better focus on that one and I thought we did a better job of keeping track of that tonight."

Anthony Gordon passed for 369 yards and four touch-

downs and Washington State rolled over Colorado 41-10 on Saturday, snapping the Cougars' three-game losing streak.

Gordon threw a 4-yard TD pass to Max Borghi and a 22-yarder to Dezmon Patmon in the first quarter as the Cougars (4-3, 1-3 Pac-12) jumped to a 14-0 lead, scored touchdowns on their first three drives and cruised to a needed victory. Gordon was 35-of-51 passing and connected with eight different receivers.

The WSU defense was excellent after weeks of getting shredded.

AMERICAN
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Altuve's homer lifts Astros

■ Houston meets Washington in Game 1 of World Series Tuesday

By Kristie Rieken
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — Jose Altuve, the 5-foot-6 driving force of Houston, delivered a swing that will play in Astros' highlights forever.

Altuve homered off Aroldis Chapman with two outs in the ninth inning and Houston outlasted the New York Yankees 6-4 Saturday night to advance to the World Series for the second time in three years.

"That's one of the best moments of post-season history," Houston general manager Jeff Luhnow said.

In a bullpen Game 6 with a back-and-forth finish, DJ LeMahieu hit a tying, two-run shot off Astros closer Roberto Osuna in the top of the ninth. Altuve answered with a two-run drive to left-center, setting off a wild celebration at Minute Maid Park and earning himself AL Championship Series MVP.

"Beautiful game," Altuve said.

Astros ace Gerrit Cole was waiting to pitch a potential Game 7 on Sunday. Instead, the postseason star — undefeated since May 22 — can be lined up for Game 1 at home against the NL champion Washington Nationals on Tuesday night.

Yuli Gurriel hit a three-run homer in the first inning, and flashy outfield defense helped Houston's relievers defeat the Yankees and their vaunted bullpen.

It almost fell apart in the ninth. Gio Urshela singled off Osuna leading off for his third hit of the game, and LeMahieu put a ball into the first row of seats in right field — inches over the glove of leaping George Springer — to tie it at 4.

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