

# Sports

## BAKER GIRLS SOCCER



Kathy Orr/Baker City Herald

Baker's McKay Anderson (50) and Skye Smith (22) battle Ontario's Boston Garcia for the ball Saturday.

## Ontario shuts out Baker girls, 2-0

Ontario scored a pair of goals midway through the first half and made them stand up to defeat Baker 2-0 in a Greater Oregon League girls soccer match Saturday at the Baker Sports

Complex. Ontario's first goal came 12 minutes into the match. The Tigers then scored again with just under 19 minutes left in the half off a

crossing shot into the upper left corner of the net. Baker completes its regular season Saturday when the Bulldogs host Mac-Hi at noon at the Sports Complex.

## EASTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL

## Mounties fall to Southern Oregon

By Ronald Bond  
The (La Grande) Observer

LA GRANDE — Eastern Oregon was, perhaps, just a couple of plays away from securing a sweep in the Small School Civil War.

In the end, though, it was Southern Oregon keeping the trend of road-field advantage alive in the rivalry.

The visiting Raiders scored 17 straight points to build a double-digit lead, then held off an Eastern Oregon rally to edge the Mountaineers, 31-25, Saturday in Frontier Conference action.

"I didn't see any give up in our kids," head coach Tim Camp said. "Physically, we brought it to them. I think we were the more physical team today, without a doubt. (But) hats off to them. They made enough plays and we came up a couple plays short of winning the football game."

The win by the Raiders, their third in a row, was the fifth straight by the road team in the rivalry, and 12th in the last 15 contests.

The home team, though, gave itself an opportunity to get back in the game after trailing by 16 points in the fourth quarter, with the defense playing a big role in the comeback effort.

The Mountaineers forced turnovers on three straight Raider possessions — an interception by Garrett Yunker late in the third and fumble recoveries by Zack Jacobs and Yunker early in the fourth — and turned the last two of those into points. A 15-yard touchdown run by Victor Dias — who rushed for a season-

high 147 yards — trimmed Eastern's deficit to nine, and a 24-yard Jaiden Machuca field goal made it a six-point game with nine minutes to play.

"I thought our kids played hard. They really did. You're down (31-15) and able to come back and put yourself in position to win at the end is all you can ask for," Camp said.

EOU got two more possessions, as well, but was unable to complete the rally. A drive to midfield stalled when Tre Holmes and Jake Regino sacked EOU quarterback Kai Quinn and a fourth-down completion to Tanner Zenke fell short of the line to gain. EOU got the ball back one final time with 13 seconds left, but a final deep pass to Saige Wilkerson was caught at the SOU 15 as time expired.

The play before, Eastern receiver Christian Blaser was ruled out of bounds on a pass with one second to play near the 15 that would have given the Mountaineers a more legitimate chance to score on the final play than a Hail Mary.

"That would have been big for us (to) be able to throw the ball in the end zone at the end," Camp said.

Eastern did what it wanted to do in several facets of the game, including owning the running game.

"I like the direction of the offense. It's more who I am and it's making the defense more physical," Camp said.

Dias' big day on the ground helped the Mountaineers to a second straight 200-plus yard

rushing effort. Southern, by comparison, had just 79 yards rushing.

"He was running downhill, he did what I asked him to do," Camp said of Dias. "He had the hot hand, and that's why I played him."

EOU also cut its penalties in half, committing just seven a week after having 15, keeping SOU in check on third down (the Raiders were 2-for-12), winning the time of possession battle, and forcing four turnovers while committing two.

But one of those, a fumble on a punt return early in the third quarter as the rain picked up, gave Southern new life after it went three-and-out to start the second half. Hykeem Massey scored on an 11-yard reception two play later for a 24-15 SOU lead. The margin swelled to its largest after an Eastern three-and-out and a 50-yard drive by Southern, which Trent Banner finished with a 2-yard run with 5:54 to play.

"The one thing that sticks out in my mind is the big stop coming out the third, and then them punting the ball and then we fumble it. We give the ball back on the special forces," Camp said. "That's tough."

EOU held the Raiders to 261 yards of total offense, with Southern largely gaining yardage off the arm of quarterback Wyatt Hutchinson, who was 20-for-31 passing for 182 yards and two scores. The Raiders' success in the passing game was due to Hutchinson reading the run-pass option effectively.

"That's them hitting the zones where they are reading (the linebackers), and we needed to stay put and rally to the run," Camp said.

Quinn was 10-for-17 passing for 153 yards, and added 22 yards rushing and two first half scores, the second of which gave EOU a 15-14 with 5:46 to play in the first half.

EOU finished with 360 total yards.

## BAKER CROSS-COUNTRY



Submitted photo

Baker's Sydney Keller won the girls individual title Thursday.

## Keller, Baker boys win

By Gerry Steele  
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Baker runners earned one individual first and one team first Thursday at the annual Kyle Burnside Wildhorse Cross Country Invitational near Mission.

Sydney Keller won the individual girls championship with a time of 19:39.3, edging Enterprise's Ellyse Tingelstad by .6 seconds.

Other Baker finishers were Corah Downing (21:12.7), 15th; Sydney Lamb (21:31.6), 23rd; Salena Bott (22:50.1), 49th; Jayden Rice (23:17.1), 54th; Lacey Jones (23:39.9), 61st; Rebekah Shaw (23:46.3), 65th; Natalia Turner (23:49.0), 66th; and Filippa Krarup (23:56.5), 68th.

The Baker boys won the championship in their portion of the race. Kale Cassidy led the Bulldogs, placing third in a time of 16:11.5.

Other Baker runners were Jake Cuzick (16:56.7), ninth; Gavin Stone (17:00.1), 10th; Lucas Stearns (17:00.5), 13th; John Niehaus (17:23.8), 19th; Justin Ash (18:04.1), 33rd; Seth Rushton (18:19.4), 38th; Hayden Younger (18:29.2), 45th; and Shane Cunningham (18:39.8), 49th.

Baker's JV boys also placed first. Baker runners were Angel DeArcos (19:03.7), third; Jordan Mills (19:16.3), fourth; Eithen Hatfield (19:35.5), seventh; Seth Mastrude (19:39.0), eighth; Thaddeus Pepera (20:30.3), 21st; Ian Jesenko (22:23.5), 33rd; Ryan Hansen (24:19.4), 39th; and Dan Wachtel (27:35.6), 46th. Baker JV girls placers were Kaitlyn Waters (25:23.6), 16th; Payton Jones (27:10.3), 22nd; and Zoe Carlson-Morrow (28:26.7), 27th.

## Dawgs compete

PENDLETON — A group of Baker Middle School cross-country runners competed at the Eastern Oregon Cross County Championships Friday at Pendleton.

Six girls and four boys ran in the seventh/eighth-grade division.

Boys finishers were Peyton Waters (12:47.9), Daniel Brown (13:09.3), Jayson Arenas (13:25.2) and Cole Hester (16:50.1).

Girls finishers were Jersey Alexander (15:50.2), Delainey Kemry (15:51.9), Maddison Gagnon (15:52.3), Reanna Ornelas (16:33.0), Jessica Mercado (16:34.4) and Lilly Collins (18:15.9).

*"I followed my heart, and it led me to the beach."*

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