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Sports

BAKER BOYS SOCCER

Bulldogs fall 1-0 to Mac-Hi, now wait for potential play-in game

Baker will learn late Tuesday or early Wednesday whether it qualifies

By Jayson Jacoby ijacoby@bakercityherald.com

Baker boys soccer coach Victor Benites had his fingers crossed Sunday afternoon, and he wouldn't mind if Bulldog fans follow suit for the next couple days.

Benites' team lost 1-0 to Mac-Hi in its regular-season finale Saturday at the Baker Sports Complex.

But the Bulldogs' season isn't officially over, and that's where the superstition comes in.

As of Sunday Baker (5-5-2 on the season) was ranked 14th by the Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA), and the top 20 teams advance to the Class 4A playoffs.

With the same record in 2018, Baker advanced to a play-in game, losing at Molalla.

We're hoping to get a play-in game again this year," Benites said.

He'll find out late Tuesday or early Wednesday, after the OSAA freezes rankings and sets the playoff bracket.

Baker could have strengthened its case Saturday but none of its scoring chances against Mac-Hi came to fruition.

"I thought all my boys played hard," Benites said. "We did have opportunities to score but we just didn't connect on any of them. It was a pretty good game."



Lisa Britton /For the Baker City Herald

Baker's Isael Duran, right, advances the ball Saturday against Mac-Hi at the Baker Sports Complex.

ally had more shots on goal in

the second half, even though

against the chilly, gusty north

Baker played well defen-

sively throughout the match,

Benites said. Baker lost to

Mac-Hi 3-1 on Oct. 3 at Mil-

the Bulldogs were going

blocked the shot.

wind.

In the second half, with Baker trailing 1-0, Jorge Duran took a pass from his younger brother, Isael, and went for a header that, had he made square contact, probably would have put the ball in the net, Benites said.

Jamisun Reguiero also had a good shot in the first half but the Mac-Hi keeper

ton-Freewater in the teams' Benites said Baker actufirst match up this season.

Mac-Hi scored the match's only goal Saturday on a firsthalf rebound shot after Baker keeper Silas Carter, facing a Mac-Hi attacker one-on-one blocked the shot.

The rebound went directly to another Pioneer who tapped the ball in.



AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA — A fast start helped Seattle rule the road vet again.

Russell Wilson threw two touchdown passes to DK Metcalf, Chris Carson ran for 90 yards and a score, and the Seahawks beat the reeling Atlanta Falcons 27-20 on Sunday.

Seattle led 24-0 at halftime, providing the cushion it would need to withstand the Falcons' comeback behind backup quarterback Matt Schaub.

The Seahawks (6-2) improved to 4-0 on the road.

"Today I think the message myself and other guys tried to send was start fast and be as physical as possible," said left tackle Duane Brown.

"We started fast and the defense was getting turnovers and getting off the field and we were getting points on the board."

The Seahawks won the turnover battle 3-0.

Coach Pete Carroll said the team's record halfway through the season "isn't the best it could have been, but it's pretty darn good."

The Falcons' offense floundered early in their first start without quarterback Matt Ryan in 10 years. Ryan's streak of 154 consecutive regular-season starts ended as he was held out with a sprained right ankle.

The Falcons (1-7) have lost six straight games, leaving coach Dan Quinn's status a hot topic as the team enters its bye week.

Wilson completed first-half touchdown passes of 4 and 2 yards to Metcalf. Carson had a 1-yard scoring run.

49ers still unbeaten

By Josh Dubow AP Pro Football Writer

SANTA CLARA, Calif. - Racing out to six straight wins to open the season against a less than formidable schedule left some people doubting how good the San Francisco 49ers actually are. Blowing out a Carolina team that had won four straight games should quiet some of those critics.

Tevin Coleman scored three of his four touchdowns in the first half, rookie Nick Bosa had three sacks to go along with an acrobatic interception and the 49ers remained unbeaten with a 51-13 victory over the Carolina Panthers on Sunday in their highest-scoring game in 26 years.

"It doesn't really matter what the outside world thinks," said cornerback Richard Sherman, who had an interception. "We know what we have in this building. The same thing we've said since training camp, we'll continue to say. We knew the talent we have, we just have to execute and focus on us and let the chips fall where they may."

The Niners (7-0) are off to their best start since winning their first 10 games in 1990.



