

BAKER FOOTBALL VERSUS NORTH BEND AT PRINEVILLE

# Bulldogs score first but lose, 32-14

By **Corey Kirk**  
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Baker scored first, but the Bulldogs couldn't maintain their momentum in a 32-14 loss in a nonleague football game against North Bend on Saturday, March 13.

The game, in deference to the distance between the two schools — more than 500 miles — was played at Crook County High School in Prineville.

Baker coach Jason Ramos said the Bulldogs focused in practice on fixing the problems they identified from watching video of the 21-12 loss at Vale in the season-opening game March 5.

"We were working on ourselves, and the mistakes that we saw after watching the Vale game, and we were just really focusing on the kids getting better at their jobs," Ramos said.

With senior quarterback Kaden Myer suffering a shoulder injury against Vale, Ramos decided to give freshman Paul Hobson the start behind center, allowing senior Gabe Gambleton to line up in the slot.

Hobson and Gambleton shared quarterback duties after Myer's injury against Vale.

"We really needed to utilize Gabe in his slot position, which allows him to utilize his skills as a receiver and a runner," Ramos said. "Getting some varsity experience for Paul moving forward into this short season, both of those things factored into our decision to go that direction."

Ramos' decision yielded results early on against Class 5A North Bend.

Gambleton broke loose for a 20-yard touchdown run that gave Baker a 7-0 lead early in the first quarter.

"It was a great run," Ramos said. "We tried to utilize him (Gambleton) in different ways in the backfield and



Beth Shirtcliff/Contributed Photo

Baker's football team traveled to Prineville to play North Bend on Saturday, March 13.

let him impact the football, he made a great play and it was nice to get on the board first."

North Bend responded later on in the first quarter with a 47-yard touchdown run from senior Jake Posey. A two-point conversion (North Bend's kicker wasn't available) gave the (other) Bulldogs the lead at 8-7.

Baker regained the lead midway through the second quarter on an outstanding individual defensive play by senior lineman Zander Arriaga. On an option play by North Bend, Arriaga swatted the ball into the end zone, where he jumped on the loose ball for the touchdown. Baker led 14-8.

"That was just a great play by Zander, he played the option well, swatting down that ball and went and got it," Ramos said.

North Bend responded again, though, scoring late in the quarter on senior Liam Bukarud's 4-yard touchdown catch. The two-point try failed, and the score was tied at 14 at halftime.

Ramos said one goal in the second half was to cut down on penalties. There were 18 flags in the first half between the two teams.

"We talked about how

we needed to clean things up and execute, and not be sloppy because everyone knew that those were causing us to struggle offensively," Ramos said.

North Bend's ground game began to shine in the second half, yielding three touchdowns, starting with Craig Edera's scamper to give North Bend the lead for good.

Senior Coleman Compton added a 1-yard touchdown run later in the third quarter, and Posey had a second score in the fourth quarter.

Baker struggled offensively in the second half.

Ramos said that although Hobson was frustrated by five interceptions, he continues to encourage the freshman signal caller, who Ramos said has great potential.

"We knew it was going to be a process for him, and we are going to have to kind of ride out some mistakes on some of those things," Ramos said. "So yeah, we are encouraging him, he made some good throws, made some good decisions, and had some that weren't so good, but that's part of his journey through this shortened season, that learning process."

Baker, which dropped to 0-2 in this shortened season, now prepares for its first game

at Baker Bulldog Memorial Stadium since Oct. 18, 2019. The Bulldogs will play host to Nyssa this Friday, March 19, at 7 p.m.

"We are still working through getting better, and just doing our jobs better within our schemes, we are going to have a good week of practice, we are going to continue to work on things, we are going to learn from film, we are going to try and correct those mistakes we are still seeing, and that's all we can do right now is just work on ourselves and get ourselves better," Ramos said. "We kind of know what Nyssa is going to be doing, we will have film on them and we will have a good week of preparation."

Baker's only other home game is scheduled for Friday, March 26 against Ontario, also at 7 p.m.

Buell Gonzales Jr., the Baker School District's athletic director, said there will be three to four groups of spectators allowed, 150 people per group, one for the visiting team and two or three for Baker. Each player will have an allotment of tickets, and additional fans likely will be allowed.

PAC-12 MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

# Beavers upset Colorado, on to NCAA tourney

■ Oregon State earns berth for just second time in the past 31 years

By **John Marshall**  
AP Basketball Writer

LAS VEGAS — Wayne Tinkle shuffled across toward the sideline, the streamers wrapped around his ankles creating a confetti wake. Remnants from a cut-down net dangled around his neck as the Oregon State coach heaved the game ball into the stands.

On the receiving end was his son and former player, Tres, sitting among other family members.

All those years of building, the ups and downs of a pandemic-altered season, and the Beavers were finally champions.

Picked to finish last, Oregon State is a conference champion for the first time, winning the Pac-12 Tournament title by holding off No. 23 Colorado 70-68 Saturday night.

"This has been the most emotional year in my life and probably for all of us," Tinkle said. "It's just incredible that we have gotten to this level and we know why we have. It's a pretty neat deal."

Needing three wins in three days to end a four-year NCAA Tournament drought, the Beavers (17-12) built confidence with each step along The Strip.

Oregon State opened its first conference title game in 33 years with a flurry of 3-pointers and withstood a late push by Colorado (22-8) to become the first Pac-10/12 team to win the conference title after being picked to finish last.

Maurice Calloo gave the Beavers a huge boost with leading scorer Ethan Thompson in foul trouble, scoring 15 points after managing 10 the eight previous games combined.

"We have been through a lot of ups and downs as a team and we were able to overcome it," Calloo said.

## Beavers play Friday, Ducks Saturday

Oregon and Oregon State's men's basketball teams both earned bids in the NCAA tournament.

Oregon State, a 12th seed in the Midwest Region, will play 5th-seeded Tennessee on Friday, March 19 at 1:30 p.m.

Oregon, a 7th seed in the West Region, will play 10th-seeded Virginia Commonwealth on Saturday, March 20 at 6:57 p.m.

# Timberwolves nip Blazers

By **Brian Hall**  
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Anthony Edwards scored a career-high 34 points and the short-handed Minnesota Timberwolves held on to beat the Portland Trail Blazers 114-112 on Sunday, March 14.

Ricky Rubio added 15 points, including eight free throws in the final seconds. Karl-Anthony Towns had 13 points as Minnesota started with just 10 players after rookie Jaden McDaniels was added to the health and safety protocols before the game.

The Timberwolves have won two of their past three games and are 2-6 under new coach Chris Finch.

"No matter if I'm playing good or bad, if it's time for a big-time shot, I always want the ball no matter what," Edwards said of his fourth quarter. "That's just who I am, but it just happened to be a good game. I was just telling them to give me the ball and get out of the way."

Damian Lillard scored 38 for Portland, which had won

four of five and beat Minnesota 125-121 on Saturday. Gary Trent Jr. added 21 points for the Blazers, and Carmelo Anthony had 16 off the bench.

Neither team could pull away for three quarters, with the largest lead being just six points for the squads playing without several key players and on the second game of a back-to-back.

Portland was playing its 25th straight game without starters Jusuf Nurkic and C.J. McCollum. The Wolves still have second-leading scorer Malik Beasley on a suspension, D'Angelo Russell recovering from left knee surgery and two players in the health and safety protocols.

"From an offensive standpoint, it was a struggle for a lot of the night and particularly the first quarter," Portland coach Terry Stotts said. "I thought we did a good job trying to fight through some shooting struggles throughout the game. ... I thought we gave a good effort in the fourth quarter to get back into it, but the hole was too deep."

Minnesota started to pull away early in the fourth and it wasn't surprising to see Edwards, the No. 1 overall draft pick, in the middle of the action.

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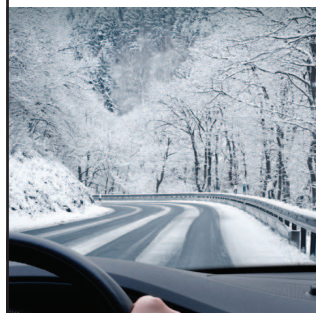
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## BULLDOGS

Continued from Page 5A

The match remained close in the final set, with the Vikings finally securing the win, 15-13.

Looking ahead, with seven matches remaining on the pandemic-abbreviated schedule, Abrego said she's excited to see her team continue to improve as it competes against more experienced teams. Vale, for instance, has five seniors and four juniors on its roster.

"I think we are finally finding a rhythm as a team, we got the first couple of games out of the way, but the more we play mature teams like Vale, the more we are being asked to rise to the occasion and I only think that is going to benefit us further down the road," Abrego said.

Baker played host to Nyssa Monday night, and the Bulldogs will play Powder Valley on Wednesday, March 17. The time had not been announced as of press time.

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