

# Sports

BAKER TENNIS

## Vale sweeps past Bulldogs

By **Corey Kirk**  
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Baker's tennis team traveled to Vale on Wednesday, April 21 and the Vikings swept all the matches.

Despite the defeat, Baker coach Amy Younger said several Bulldogs played well in their matches.

Junior Sarah Plummer showed a lot of promise in a 6-2, 6-3 loss to Vale's Breena Bushman, Younger said.

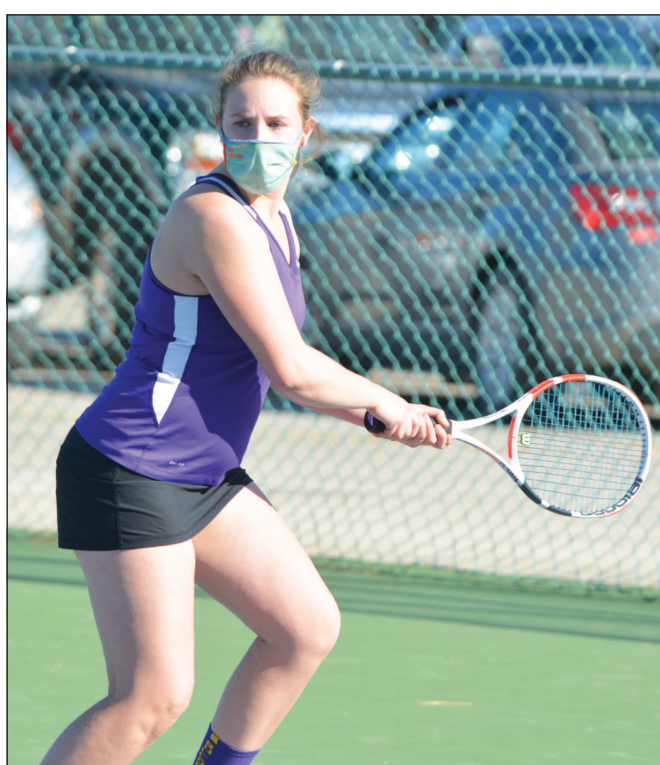
"It was a great game, there were a lot of rallies," Younger said.

On the boys side, Baker sophomore Anthony Christopher managed to take Vale's Vincente Arteaga to three sets, losing the match 7-5, 5-7, 4-6.

Younger was impressed by Christopher's performance.

"He fought hard for every point," Younger said.

Baker travels to Nyssa on Monday, April 26.



Corey Kirk/Baker City Herald

Baker's Sarah Plummer, shown here on Monday, April 19 against La Grande, played well despite losing to Vale's Breena Bushman on Wednesday, April 21.

BAKER TRACK AND FIELD

## Girls 1st, boys 2nd at Nyssa

By **Corey Kirk**  
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The Baker girls finished first and the boys placed second in a multi-school track and field meet Thursday, April 22 at Nyssa.

"The kids continue to impress us, they did a great job at competing," Baker coach Suzy Cole said.

The Baker girls competed against Huntington, Nyssa, Adrian, Riverside, Burns, Vale, Irrigon and Harper. Baker finished with 230 points, doubling runner-up Nyssa with 115.

The same teams, minus Irrigon, competed on the boys side. Adrian won the team title with 144 points. Baker had 128 points.

### Girls individual winners

- Emma Baeth in both the 400 and the 800
- Sydney Lamb in the 3,000
- Anna Belding in the 200
- Sydney Keller set a person record in winning the 1,500 in 5:14.67
- Brooklyn Jaca, 300 hurdles
- 4x100 relay team — Alexis Conant, Brooklyn Jaca, Anna Belding, Sydnee Pierce
- 4x400 relay team — Anna Belding, Sydnee Pierce, Sydney Keller, Emma Baeth
- Hayden Paulsen, javelin

### Boys individual winners

- Jordan Mills, 800
- Ian Jesenko, long jump

### RESULTS

#### (BAKER AND HUNTINGTON FINISHERS)

#### 100 METERS, GIRLS

3. Sydnee Pierce; 6. Alexis Conant; 13. Colleen Carlsen (Huntington); 14. Jocelyn Reiher (Huntington)

#### 100 METERS, BOYS

3. Kaden Myer; 4. Malaki Myer; 12. Ian Jesenko; 15. Peter Zugic (Huntington); 20. Bailey Hicks (Huntington); 27. Michael Carlsen (Huntington)

#### 200 METERS, GIRLS

1. Anna Belding; 8. Colleen Carlsen (Huntington)

#### 200 METERS, BOYS

3. Malaki Myer; 7. Diego Quintela; 8. Jonathan Abbe (Huntington); 21. Vito Pawalitoskosol (Huntington)

#### 400 METERS, GIRLS

1. Emma Baeth

#### 400 METERS, BOYS

6. Gabe Bott

#### 800 METERS, GIRLS

1. Emma Baeth

#### 1500 METERS, GIRLS

1. Sydney Keller; 4. Sydney Lamb; 5. Lacy Gyllenberg

#### 1500 METERS, BOYS

2. Thaddeus Pepera; 7. Seth Mastrude; 10. Clayton Dennis

#### 100 HURDLES, GIRLS

2. Brooklyn Jaca; 4. Alexis Conant

#### 300 HURDLES, GIRLS

2. Brooklyn Jaca; 4. Alexis Conant

#### 300 HURDLES, BOYS

3. Dash Bloomer; 5. Gaige Birmingham

#### SHOT PUT, GIRLS

2. Jozie Ramos; 4. Hayden Paulsen; 7. Ryann Paulsen;

10. Morgan Hall; 13. Evan Rexroad

#### SHOT PUT, BOYS

7. Mike Gentry; 10. David Hornung (Huntington); 13. Peter Zugic (Huntington); 16. Jacob Mills; 21. Bryce Klosky (Huntington); 23. Reeve Damschen

#### DISCUS, GIRLS

2. Hayden Paulsen; 6. Jozie Ramos; 8. Morgan Hall; 16. Nine Piechocki (Huntington); 17. Alina Samodelova (Huntington)

#### DISCUS, BOYS

4. Mike Gentry; 6. Jacob Mills; 7. Tate Powell; 11. Gabe Bott; 17. Clayton Dennis

#### JAVELIN, GIRLS

2. Ryann Paulsen; 5. Colleen Carlsen (Huntington); 6. Jozie Ramos; 8. Avril Zickgraf; 20. Nina Piechocki (Huntington); 21. Alina Samodelova (Huntington)

#### JAVELIN, BOYS

3. Dash Bloomer; 4. Gauge Bloomer; 6. Gaige Birmingham; 8. David Hornung (Huntington); 11. Eliot Liberale (Huntington); 13. Micha Shepard (Huntington); 17. Damion Klosky (Huntington); 25. Bryce Klosky (Huntington)

#### HIGH JUMP, GIRLS

2. Brooklyn Jaca; 3. Jozie Ramos; 7. Alexis Conant; 8. Daphne Thomas; 9. Evan Rexroad

#### POLE VAULT, GIRLS

2. Sydney Keller; 4. Avril Zickgraf; 5. Salena Bott

#### POLE VAULT, BOYS

4. Gauge Bloomer; 7. Reeve Damschen; 8. Gabe Bott

#### LONG JUMP, GIRLS

3. Sydnee Pierce; 4. Daphne Thomas; 7. Salena Bott;

#### LONG JUMP, BOYS

19. Vito Pawalitoskosol (Huntington);

20. Michael Carlsen (Huntington)

#### TRIPLE JUMP, GIRLS

2. Sydney Keller; 4. Salena Bott; 5. Avril Zickgraf

#### TRIPLE JUMP, BOYS

2. Sydney Keller; 4. Salena Bott; 5. Avril Zickgraf

Baker will have a home meet Thursday, April 29 starting at 2:30 p.m. Results will be posted at [www.athletic.net](http://www.athletic.net).

## WOLVES

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That's been true since wolves started migrating into the state from Idaho about 20 years ago.

Of the minimum statewide population of 173 wolves, 151 — 87% — are in the northeast corner, including Baker, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Grant and Morrow counties.

That region also is home to 20 of the state's 22 documented wolf packs, according to ODFW. The agency defines a pack as four or more wolves traveling together during winter. Pack populations ranged from four to 15 wolves.

### Wolf attacks on livestock

Both reported and confirmed wolf attacks on livestock increased during 2020.

ODFW investigated 73 cases of suspected wolf attacks reported by ranchers, a 46% increase from 2019. A majority of those investigations — 51 of 73, or 70% — were in Eastern Oregon.

The number of confirmed wolf attacks rose by 94% in 2020, from 16 to 31. Slightly more than half of the confirmed depredations — 52% — were from the Rogue pack in Southwest Oregon, which was responsible for 16 confirmed attacks.

Statewide, 42% of reported wolf attacks were confirmed, which 21% were deemed possible or unknown, and 34% were attributed to other predators or causes. Another 3% were listed as probable wolf attacks.

The percentage of confirmed attacks was lower in Eastern Oregon than statewide, however, with 15 of 51 investigations — 29% — deemed confirmed.

In 2019 there were seven confirmed wolf attacks on livestock in Eastern Oregon.

The comparatively low percentage of confirmed attacks is one concern that ranchers have about Oregon's approach to wolf management, said Rodger Huffman, a Northeast Oregon rancher and co-chairman of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association's Wolf Task Force Committee.

Huffman said he and other ranchers believe ODFW's criteria for determining whether wolves attacked livestock are too heavily weighted toward a finding other than confirmation that wolves are responsible.

He said he understands, however, that ODFW officials are under pressure from what Huffman calls the "pro-wolf side," to not blame wolves for livestock attacks without overwhelming physical evidence.

Huffman said he's not suggesting that agency biologists assume wolves are the culprits in all depredations, but he contends a lower standard would be more reasonable, and better reflect the actual prevalence of

## Wolves in Baker County

Wolves from these packs have been tracked in parts of Baker County:

- Catherine pack, 5 wolves, mainly in Union County but occasionally the north-central part of Baker County.
- Cornucopia pack, 6 wolves, range includes parts of the Eagle and Pine valleys.
- Keating pack, 8 wolves, range includes the Sparta area north of Highway 86.
- Lookout pack, 4 wolves exclusively in Baker County between Highway 86 and Interstate 84 east of Baker City
- Middle Fork pack, 6 wolves, primarily in Wallowa County
- Pine Creek pack, 8 wolves, extreme eastern part of the county.

wolf attacks on livestock.

He said he knows a rancher in Union County who reported six possible depredations last year, but ODFW confirmed only one.

Huffman said the rancher has "lost confidence in the system" as a result.

Although Huffman believes wolf populations are increasing faster than ODFW's figures show, an official from Defenders of Wildlife, a group that advocates for the state to protect wolves and encourage their distribution in Oregon, said wolves are still in a relatively tenuous situation.

"This past year has seen a multitude of challenges for wolves in Oregon," said Sristi Kamal, senior Oregon representative for Defenders of Wildlife. "While increasing wolf numbers are encouraging, long-term recovery is still dependent on addressing multiple threats, including poaching and a push for predator control measures."

According to the ODFW annual report, four wolves were killed illegally in Oregon in 2020. Oregon State Police is investigating three of those cases. The breeding male of the Ruckel Ridge pack was shot in Umatilla County in May 2020. The breeding male of the Cornucopia pack was shot in September in Baker County, and a subadult wolf, believed to be from the Pine Creek pack, was shot in October in Baker County.

Five other wolves died from different causes during 2020, according to ODFW.

One pup from the Wenaha pack and a yearling from the Indigo pack died of natural causes.

A livestock owner shot a wolf that was attacking livestock, one was hit by a car on Interstate 84 in Baker County, and another apparently was killed when it was hit by a boat while swimming across the Snake River in March 2020.

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