

Sports

BAKER SOFTBALL

Ontario sweeps Baker in doubleheader

By **Corey Kirk**
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As the wind blew through the Baker Sports Complex Tuesday, May 4, the Ontario Tigers swept Baker in a Greater Oregon League softball doubleheader.

Ontario won the opener 16-0, and the nightcap 11-1.

Although the Tigers took command immediately, with 10 runs in the top of the first inning of the first game, Baker coach Sonny Gulick said he was proud of starting pitcher Teygan Coley's resolve.

"I thought she played really gritty, considering at the plate and in the field we weren't doing a really good job supporting her," Gulick said of the sophomore pitcher.

Outside of a couple of base hits from sophomore Taylor Gyllenberg and Coley herself, the Bulldogs were unable to spark any sort of momentum offensively, striking eight times in the first game.

Ontario scored six more runs in the next two innings and eventually triggered the mercy rule.

In game two, Gulick tabbed sophomore Kaycee Cuzick to pitch, and he was pleased with her effort.

"I thought she did a great job, she threw lots of strikes, and was able to keep us in it through six (innings)," Gu-



Corey Kirk/Baker City Herald

Baker's Taylor Gyllenberg takes a swing during a softball doubleheader against Ontario on Tuesday, May 4 at the Baker Sports Complex.

lick said. "I really thought Kaycee was going to get us through seven today."

After putting up three runs in the first, Ontario gained and maintained their lead for game two.

Baker scored its lone run in the sixth inning when sophomore Kaci Anderson crossed the plate, but with Ontario leading by 10 runs the game didn't move to a

seventh inning due to the mercy rule.

"I loved how we changed our mentality for game two, it was obvious we were there to at least have them get us out, not just give an out away," Gulick said.

He believes that the mentality the Bulldogs developed in the second game should be their goal for the rest of the season.

"It was like watching a different team play, we looked far more grown up in game two than we did in game one, and that was good to see," Gulick said.

He's also excited about the potential of a team made of primarily of sophomores, many of whom are playing both junior varsity and varsity.

The two teams combined to win all six of their games last week.

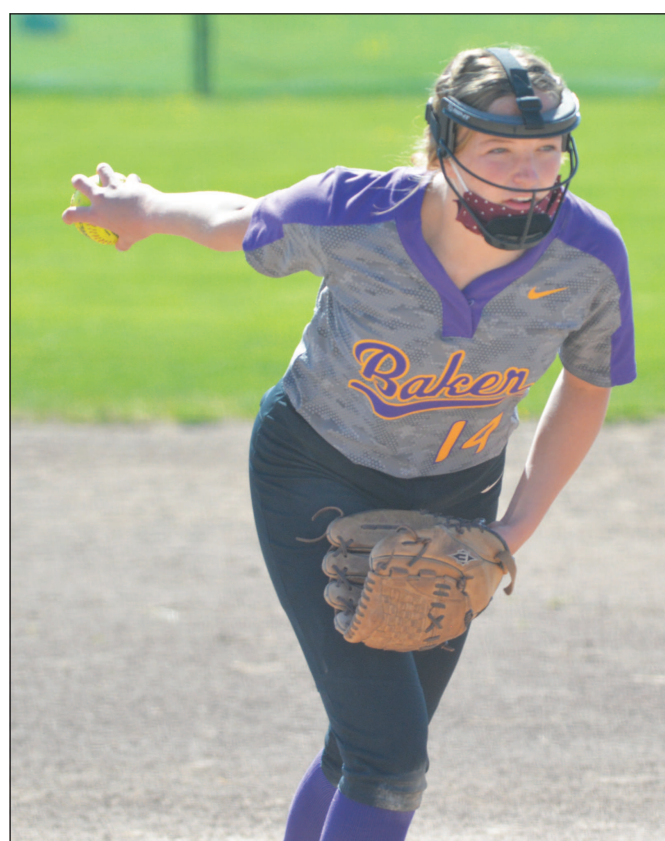
"So many of those kids are playing JV and they've got to learn what a win is

like," Gulick said. "Now we just have to figure out how to not make the mistakes that hurt us, so we can find what a couple of wins on the varsity level could be like."

Gulick is thankful for both his players and their parents for being supportive.

"When you are going through growing pains, and trying to build a program, they're going to be some rough patches," he said. "I sure do appreciate the kids and the parents being so positive with how things are going."

Baker's varsity team travels to La Grande today for a doubleheader starting at 2 p.m.



Corey Kirk/Baker City Herald

Sophomore Teygan Coley was the starting pitcher in the first game of Baker's doubleheader against Ontario on Tuesday, May 4 at the Sports Complex.

BAKER TENNIS

Baker falls to Ontario, 8-2

By **Corey Kirk**
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In their second match up of the season, the Baker tennis team won two of 10 matches against Ontario on Monday, May 3 at the Ash Grove courts.

Junior Sarah Plummer beat Emma Nauverre 8-4 in a pro set, then fell 6-2, 6-2 to Laken Herrera in a regular match.

Baker coach Amy Younger said Plummer played well against Herrera.

"They both worked very hard for every point and game," Younger said.

On the boys side, Baker's lone win was the freshmen doubles team of Noah Lien and Weston Downing, who beat Humberto Gonzales and John Paul 9-8 in a pro set, winning the tiebreaker 7-3.

Younger said sophomores Davis Macias and Austin Hays showed promise in their 6-3, 6-3 loss to Jerred Halley and Cristeon Rodrigues.

"There were great rallies, both teams worked hard for all games earned," Younger said.

Baker travels to La Grande Friday, May 7, with matches starting at 4 p.m.

Hawks end Blazers' win streak

By **Paul Newberry**
AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA — Danilo Gallinari made seven 3-pointers and finished with 28 points, leading the Atlanta Hawks to a 123-114 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers in a matchup Monday night of teams battling for playoff positioning in their respective conferences.

The Hawks snapped Portland's four-game winning streak, which had come entirely on the road.

Atlanta entered the night tied for fifth in the Eastern Conference, with the Trail Blazers holding the same spot in the West. Both teams are looking

to avoid dropping as low as seventh, which would force them into the play-in tournament.

After getting in early Monday from Boston, where they beat the Celtics the previous night, the Trail Blazers were forced from the hotel rooms to take refuge in a parking garage for about a half-hour by a tornado warning in Atlanta.

They ran out of steam in the fourth quarter, ruining a fourth night for Damian Lillard and a bit of history for Carmelo Anthony.

The 36-year-old Anthony scored 14 points to surpass Elvin Hayes for 10th place on the NBA's career scoring list

with 27,318.

"This moment is a little bit special," Anthony said. "I don't want to downplay it. I'm excited about it."

The Hawks were excited about the win, especially with Gallinari providing a big lift off the bench.

"It's very important," coach Nate McMillan said. "You've got to have a first and second unit. He's a big part of how we play in that second unit."

Bogdan Bogdanovic provided the bulk of Atlanta's offense over the first two quarters, scoring 23 of his 25 points for the second highest-scoring half of his career.

BAKER BASEBALL

Baker rolls past Tigers in twinbill

By **Corey Kirk**
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The Baker baseball team went on the road Tuesday, May 4 and returned from Ontario with two wins, 5-1 and 18-1.

In the opener, Baker senior Mason Van Arsdall faced off against Ontario ace Nick Esplin. Van Arsdall allowed seven hits over 6.2 innings, and Zander Arriaga got the final out after Van Arsdall reached his pitch limit.

"They (Ontario) had a lot of fielding errors, we might have had one earned run out of five, it was a pitching battle basically," Baker coach Tim Smith said.

Van Arsdall and Hudson Spike each had a double and an RBI for Baker, which largely struggled with Esplin, recording 14 strikeouts.

Smith also credited Hayden Younger, Baker's speedy leadoff hitter who was hit by a pitch and stole two bases, for giving the Bulldogs a spark.

"He (Younger) hit the ball well, we were a menace on the bases, (and) he was probably the main cog in getting that thing going," Smith said of Younger, who scored one of Baker's five runs.

In the nightcap, sophomore Thomas Smithson took the mound and held Ontario scoreless over 2.1 innings.

"He pitched two and a third with no earned runs, and we played great defense behind him," Smith said.

Baker didn't commit an error in the second game, and had only one miscue in the first game.

While Smithson was keeping the Tigers in check, the Bulldogs took control with a total of 10 runs in the first three innings, including four in the opening frame.

Baker scored at least twice in each inning of the game, which ended after five innings due to the 10-run mercy rule.

Baker piled up 16 hits.

"We came out early putting four runs on the board, we were swinging it well in game two," Smith said.

Younger went 3 for 4 with 3 RBIs, Connor Chastain was 2 for 4 with 3 RBIs, and Andrew Zellars was 3 for 3 with an RBI.

Arriaga was 2 for 4, including a triple, and drove in a run, and Spike and Younger each had a double.

Arriaga replaced Smithson on the mound in the third, and Chastain threw the final inning. Baker's three pitchers allowed five hits and struck out six.

Baker (6-4) now gets another chance against its nemesis this season, La Grande. All four of Baker's losses were to the Tigers.

"I think we are capable of playing better baseball than we've played against them," Smith said. "That's what we are looking for, we are looking to compete and give ourselves a chance."

The Bulldogs travel to La Grande on Saturday, May 8 for a doubleheader starting at 11 a.m.

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