

## BAKER TENNIS

# Plummer qualifies for state

By **Corey Kirk**  
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Baker junior Sarah Plummer will represent the Bulldogs at the state tennis tournament next week at the Umpqua Tennis Center in Roseburg.

Plummer, Baker's lone girls singles player, finished second in the district tournament Thursday, May 13 at the Ash Grove Courts in Baker City.

"I'm proud of how hard she works to improve every day at practice," Baker coach Amy Younger said of Plummer. "I'm very pleased with her ability to adapt, learn, and try to implement stuff we talked about while practicing."

Plummer beat La Grande's Breana Bushman 6-0, 6-1 in the first round, and Ontario's Emma Navarrette 6-3, 6-1 in the semifinals. In the district championship match, Plummer lost 7-6, 6-4 to La Grande's Presley Justice.

In girls doubles, Baker's team of freshman Tristen Tritt and sophomore Riley Shaw won their first-round match but lost in the semifinals.

In boys action, Baker singles players Karsten Cikanek and Lincoln Nemecek lost in the first round, as did the doubles teams of Weston Downing and Noah Lien, and Davis Macias and Austin Hays.

"The overall efforts of the team were fantastic, they played and tried hard and as a coach that's all I can ask for," Younger said.



Corey Kirk/Baker City Herald

Sarah Plummer qualified for the state tennis tournament

# Pac-12 names commissioner

By **Ralph D. Russo**  
AP College Football Writer

The Pac-12 hired George Kliavkoff to be the conference's next commissioner Thursday, replacing Larry Scott with another college sports outsider and charging him with rebuilding the football brand.

Kliavkoff has been the president of sports and entertainment for MGM Resorts International in Las Vegas since 2018.

University of Oregon President Michael H. Schill, the chairman of the Pac-12's five-member search committee, called Kliavkoff "a highly experienced and pioneering sports, entertainment and digital media executive."

Kliavkoff, 54, has previously worked with Major League Baseball Advanced Media and Hearst Entertainment & Syndication, and was also the chief digital officer with NBC Universal Cable.

"He is very much a new prototype for sports commissioner," Schill said. "He is the sort of person we need for this decade and the decades beyond. Even without serving a day in the job, George has thoughtfully challenged us to envision what is possible for the Pac-12. What is possible for the coming era of new technologies and media."

The Pac-12 university presidents conducted a secretive nearly four-month search with the executive search firm, TurnkeyZRG.

## BAKER SOFTBALL

# Baker salutes softball seniors before final home games

By **Corey Kirk**  
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The Baker softball team honored its three seniors before taking on Grant Union at the Baker Sports Complex Wednesday, May 12.

Seniors Jordynn Fine, Rebekah Davis and Shelby Griffith were recognized by the small crowd prior to the first game.

The Prospectors (9-2) swept the twinbill, 11-0 and 21-3.

Baker coach Sonny Gulick, who taught some of the seniors in elementary school, said he's grateful that they continued to play despite the challenges of the past two seasons, with 2020's schedule being canceled and this year's being shortened.



Corey Kirk/Baker City Herald

Senior Shelby Griffith at bat Wednesday, May 12.

"I appreciate them sticking it out, it's been a tough year, and some of them have had jobs and made shifts at work so they can be here," Gulick said.

In game one, sophomore Kaycee Cuzick started in the circle. Although the Prospectors hit the ball hard, Gulick was proud of Cuzick's effort.

"She's putting the ball where the hitter could hit, and that's all that you can ask for," he said. "Right now we have to do a better job in the field supporting her, which I've said consistently all year."

Stepping up to the plate, the Bulldogs struggled to spark any momentum during the first game, striking 11 times. Gulick said the Bulldogs need to be more patient at the plate rather than swinging at pitches that would be called balls.

"There were times where

we were helping the pitcher making sure they were ahead of the count," Gulick said.

After scoring seven runs in the first four innings, the Prospectors plated four runs in the fifth and held Baker scoreless to win 11-0 by mercy rule.

In game two, the Bulldogs put sophomore Teygan Coley in the pitcher's circle, and the Prospectors again showed their offensive prowess.

"They were hitting her hard, they were hitting gaps, everything they did, they did pretty well," Gulick said.

The Bulldogs had a stronger showing in game two at the plate, however. In the bottom of the first, Fine drove in

sophomore Taylor Gyllenberg with Baker's first run.

Then, in the bottom of the third, sophomore Kaci Anderson drove in two runs with a deep shot that turned into a triple.

"I was pretty happy, Jordynn and Bekah (Rebekah Davis), two of our seniors, had a hit when we needed to move some runners around and to score them, and of course Kaci Anderson with that two-run triple there, which was great," Gulick said.

Grant Union continued to score often, and again ended the game after five innings.

Baker concludes its season today by traveling to Nyssa for a doubleheader.

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