

Sports

BAKER TRACK AND FIELD

Total of 18 Bulldogs qualify for state meet

By **Corey Kirk**
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Eighteen Baker track and field athletes punched their tickets to the state meet with strong performances at the district meet in Ontario on Saturday, May 14.

“It went amazing, they did great,” Baker coach Suzy Cole said.

The state meet is set for Friday and Saturday, May 21 and 22, at Siuslaw High School in Florence.

In addition to the individuals who qualified for state by finishing first or second in their events, the Baker boys won the team title at the district meet, edging La Grande, 93 to 89.

The Baker girls finished second behind La Grande, with 81 points to the Tigers’ 122.



Corey Kirk/Baker City Herald, File

Girls qualifiers

Sophomore Anna Belding advanced to state in two events, winning the district title in the 400, and placing second in the 200.

Senior Sydney Keller placed second in the 400, and junior Emma Baeth was runner-up in the 800.

Belding, Keller and Baeth will be joining their teammate, sophomore Sydnee Pierce, to compete at state in the 4x400 relay, which the quartet won at district.

Cole said sophomore Jozie Ramos qualified in both the high jump, finishing second, but she also surprised her coach by placing second in the shot put to qualify in that event as well.

“She definitely had a good day for us,” Cole said of Ramos.

Boys qualifiers

Senior Kaden Myer set a personal record in winning the 100 meters in 11.44 seconds.

“Kaden has worked very hard for four years, he’s very competitive and has put in

Salena Bott, shown her competing earlier in the spring, finished second in the pole vault at the district meet on Saturday, May 14 to qualify for the state meet. Bott’s teammate, Sydney Keller, won the event at district.

a lot of work,” Cole said. “He had another great 100.”

His younger brother, freshman Malaki Myer, placed second in the 200. Sophomore Diego Quintela was runner-up in the 400, and sophomore Jordan Mills won the 800.

Sophomore Gauge Bloomer qualified for state in both the javelin, where he was second, and the 110 hurdles, which he won.

“He won the high hurdles for us, which is something he used to do, but he is a pretty big kid now, and we asked him to run those to get points for us, and those points were very pivotal for us,” Cole said.

Sophomore Reeve Damschen won the pole vault, senior Ian Jesenko was district champion in the long jump, sophomore Thaddeus Pepera placed second in the high jump, and Tate Powell was second in the long jump. Freshman Dash Bloomer was second in the 300 hurdles.

- 800 METERS, GIRLS**
2. Emma Baeth.
- 1500 METERS, GIRLS**
3. Emma Baeth; 4. Corah Downing.
- 3000 METERS, GIRLS**
3. Sydney Lamb; 5. Salena Bott.
- 1500 METERS, BOYS**
5. Seth Mastrude.
- 3000 METERS, BOYS**
5. Jordan Mills; 6. Seth Mastrude.
- 100 HURDLES, GIRLS**
4. Brooklyn Jaca; 6. Jocelynn Hellberg; 8. Alexis Conant.
- 110 HURDLES, BOYS**
1. Gauge Bloomer; 4. Thaddeus Pepera; 7. Jacob Mills.
- 300 HURDLES, GIRLS**
4. Corah Downing; 5. Salena Bott; 6. Brooklyn Jaca.
- 300 HURDLES, BOYS**
2. Dash Bloomer; 3. Thaddeus Pepera; 4. Gabe Bott.
- 4X100 RELAY, GIRLS**
3. Brooklyn Jaca, Alexis Conant, Anna Belding, Sydnee Pierce.
- 4X100 RELAY, BOYS**
1. Kaden Myer, Malaki Myer, Wyatt Hawkins, Ian Jesenko.
- 4X400 RELAY, GIRLS**
1. Anna Belding, Sydnee Pierce, Sydney Keller, Emma Baeth.
- 4X400 RELAY, BOYS**
1. Kaden Myer, Malaki Myer, Diego Quintela, Angel DeArcos.
- 300 HURDLES, BOYS**
3. Dash Bloomer; 5. Gauge Birmingham
- SHOT PUT, GIRLS**
2. Jozie Ramos; 8. Hayden Paulsen; 9. Ryann Paulsen.
- SHOT PUT, BOYS**
4. Eithen Hatfield; 8. Mike Gentry; 9. Tate Powell.
- DISCUS, GIRLS**
3. Hayden Paulsen; 6. Jozie Ramos.
- DISCUS, BOYS**
5. Mike Gentry; 6. Jacob Mills; 9. Tate Powell.
- JAVELIN, GIRLS**
3. Hayden Paulsen; 4. Ryann Paulsen.
- JAVELIN, BOYS**
2. Gauge Bloomer; 5. Dash Bloomer; 6. Gauge Birmingham.
- HIGH JUMP, GIRLS**
2. Jozie Ramos; 4. Brooklyn Jaca; 5. Daphne Thomas.
- HIGH JUMP, BOYS**
2. Thaddeus Pepera; 4. Gabe Bott.
- POLE VAULT, GIRLS**
1. Sydney Keller; 2. Salena Bott; 3. Avril Zickgraf.
- POLE VAULT, BOYS**
1. Reeve Damschen; 3. Gabe Bott.
- LONG JUMP, GIRLS**
4. Sydnee Pierce; 5. Avril Zickgraf; 6. Daphne Thomas.
- LONG JUMP, BOYS**
1. Ian Jesenko; 2. Tate Powell; 5. Wyatt Hawkins.
- TRIPLE JUMP, GIRLS**
2. Sydney Keller; 5. Avril Zickgraf.
- TRIPLE JUMP, BOYS**
3. Dash Bloomer; 5. Wyatt Hawkins.

DISTRICT RESULTS

- 100 METERS, GIRLS**
6. Sydnee Pierce; 8. Alexis Conant.
- 100 METERS, BOYS**
1. Kaden Myer; 5. Wyatt Hawkins; 7. Ian Jesenko.
- 200 METERS, GIRLS**
2. Anna Belding.
- 200 METERS, BOYS**
2. Malaki Myer; 7. Gauge Birmingham.
- 400 METERS, GIRLS**
1. Anna Belding; 2. Sydney Keller.
- 400 METERS, BOYS**
2. Diego Quintela; 3. Angel DeArcos.
- 800 METERS, BOYS**
1. Jordan Mills.

MASKS

Continued from Page 1A

“We were mortified that the whole enforcement piece could fall back on businesses,” he said. “We were deeply disappointed.”

Peterson said that although most customers have respected the mask mandates in effect for most of the past year, he understands that the May 13 announcement by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will naturally lead people who are fully vaccinated to expect that they’ll be able to go shopping without a mask.

But if Oregon officials require businesses to verify customers’ vaccination status, he fears that will add another potential area of conflict between business owners and their customers.

“We’re stuck in a precarious position to have to comply with rules to stay in business,” Peterson said. “It puts mom and pop businesses in a really difficult situation.”

He said customers have been immensely patient during the pandemic, and adjusting to changes

including the mask mandate.

“We were brought to tears more than once over Christmas by local folks supporting our business,” Peterson said. “The community really came together to shop local.”

He said he hopes residents will be similarly accommodating as businesses wait for, and deal with, new guidelines.

The Petersons’ reaction to the highly publicized statements by both the CDC and Oregon officials, and their concern about what some customers will expect, are common, said Shelly Cutler, executive director of the Baker County Chamber of Commerce.

“I think it’s a very difficult position for any business owner to be in,” Cutler said. “It’s unfair. I think it’s going to create a lot of problems.”

Cutler said a frequent concern she’s heard over the past several days from local business owners is that setting different standards for people who are fully vaccinated will create both confusion and, potentially, anger among customers.

“I don’t want our community divided into two groups,” Cutler said.

Another question that has arisen recently is whether store workers have a legal right to ask customers about their vaccination status, Cutler said.

That query is based on federal and state health privacy laws.

Cutler said she’s looked into the matter and is confident that businesses can ask customers whether they’re fully vaccinated. She noted that the health privacy laws prevent hospitals and other health care providers from disclosing patients’ medical records.

But the bigger problem, Cutler said, is that she doesn’t think businesses should be in a position of having to ask a question which, she’s certain, will offend some customers.

Tyler Brown, who owns Barley Brown’s Brew Pub and Tap House, separate businesses on Main Street in Baker City, said he will continue to require diners to wear masks until state officials issue detailed guidance.

Brown said he dislikes the idea of asking maskless customers to prove they’re fully vaccinated.

Baker Lions Club completes vision screening for kids

The Baker City Lions Club conducted vision screening in Baker schools on April 27 and 28 to identify students who might need vision care.

Using adapted equipment and procedures for social distancing, volunteers tested about 500 students and identified 70 for further assessment, according to a press release from the Lions Club.

Screenings were done at Baker Middle School, Haines, Keating, South Baker, Brooklyn, and the Baker Early Learning Center. When the screenings detect a vision problem, the school notifies the parents and recommends seeing an eye care professional for further assessment.

The club has been part of the vision screenings program for many years but was unable to participate in 2020 due to school closures and the COVID-19 pandemic. The reopening of schools and adaptations to equipment and protocols allowed this service to resume this year.

Instead of the traditional wall charts, the Lions use a machine made by Welch Allyn called the Spot Vision Screener. It tests for such issues as nearsightedness, farsightedness, astigmatism, and unequal pupil size in a matter of seconds.

Dr. Logan Mitchell of Baker Vision Clinic praised the equipment, saying that follow up exams at the Vision Clinic confirmed the accuracy and reliability of the process.

This year, the Spot Vision Screener was placed on a tripod and volunteers asked questions and gave directions to students while maintaining social distance. Lions project coordinator Chris Knoll said the process “worked very well ... perhaps better than the pre-COVID screening method.”

The Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation bought testing machines several years ago, at a cost of about \$10,000 each, for use around the state.

Kathy Taylor, treasurer for the Baker Lions Club, said the club in past years paid a set amount at each testing location to cover the cost of the machines and the trainer provided. This year the Oregon Department of Education will pay part of the cost, and the Baker City Lions will pay around \$500, in addition to providing ten volunteers.

“Totally amazing for our district to not only receive this help, but the incredible screening the Lions provide the district,” said Carol (C.J.) Gray, the Baker School District’s Student Services Coordinator and Testing Director.

The Lions also collects used glasses and hearing aids at the Baker Vision Clinic, Baker School District and several local businesses for donation.

For more information, please see the Baker City Lions website or Facebook page, or call 541-519-2350.

Hammond receives \$1,500 scholarship

Reno Hammond has received a \$1,500 scholarship from the Saint Alphonsus Auxiliary-Baker City.

Hammond, a 2019 Baker High School graduate, is attending Oregon State University studying chemistry, with a pre-med option.

The Auxiliary’s scholarship committee — Marilyn Bloom, Marilyn Delfatti and Peggy Payton — reviewed applications from students enrolled in a health care field who will be at least a college sophomore by September of the previous year.



Hammond

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