

BAKER FOOTBALL

Vale ends Baker's win streak

By COREY KIRK

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On a crisp fall evening under the lights at Baker Bulldog Memorial Stadium, the Vale Vikings ended Baker's two-game winning streak with a 34-23 win on Friday, Oct. 8.

After Baker stopped Vale on the Vikings' initial drive, the Bulldogs took an early 7-0 lead on senior running back Gauge Bloomer's 10-yard touchdown.

"We came right out the gate with a stop, got them off the field and we went down the field and scored," Baker coach Jason Ramos said. "We executed really well that first drive with the four or five plays that we ran, so we felt good about that."

But Vale (5-1), behind the dynamic duo of senior quarterback Tanner Steele and wide receiver John Wolfe, responded.

First, Wolfe, after Bloomer's touchdown, took the ensuing kickoff 90 yards for a touchdown.

That switched the momentum, Ramos said.

"The Vale takeaway is we can't afford to make our own mental or major errors in the ball game."

— Baker coach Jason Ramos

"Had they not returned that kickoff immediately after, things might have been different, at least in the first half," he said.

Vale scored 27 straight points to lead 27-7.

But before halftime Baker's sophomore quarterback, Paul Hobson, found fellow sophomore receiver Malaki Myer for a touchdown that cut the Vikings' lead to 27-13 at intermission.

Ramos said he told the Bulldogs at halftime that the score should have been even closer.

"Our conversation was we need to own the deficit that we had at halftime because it was our own doing, that kickoff shouldn't have had happened ... it should have been 20-13 at halftime or 14-13 at that point," Ramos said. "We just talked about coming back out, get the ball and



Corey Kirk/Baker City Herald

Baker sophomore Hudson Spike, No. 8, tackles Vale's John Wolfe midway through the first quarter Friday night, Oct. 8 at Baker Bulldog Memorial Stadium.

come back to score and get right back in the game."

Baker had a great chance to do that after Vale was penalized for a late hit and a subsequent unsportsmanlike conduct, moving the ball 30 yards to just outside the Vale 20.

But the Bulldogs, in part due to their own penalties, couldn't take advantage.

"That put us way down just outside the red zone and

we are knocking on the door and of course we penalized ourselves and dig ourselves back out where we don't exactly convert," Ramos said. "We've got to be more opportunistic and we have to clean up our own mistakes."

After a scoreless third quarter, Vale scored an insurance touchdown in the fourth quarter, with Wolfe getting into the end zone again.

Bloomer led Baker with 51

yards on 14 carries. Freshman Jaxon Logsdon, who had a couple series at quarterback in the fourth quarter, had 15 yards on four carries.

Hobson finished 15 of 21 passing for 131 yards and a touchdown. Myer led Baker receivers with nine catches for 86 yards. Hudson Spike had five catches for 41 yards, and Dash Bloomer had a 22-yard reception.

Despite the disappoint-

ment of seeing the winning streak end, Ramos is optimistic that the Bulldogs (2-4) will continue to improve as they look to the final three games on their schedule.

"The Vale takeaway is we can't afford to make our own mental or major errors in the ball game," Ramos said. "Our focus this week will be cleaning up and executing our own stuff."

Baker returns to the road this Friday, traveling to Ontario to take on the Tigers (1-4) for a 6 p.m. PDT kickoff.

Prairie City/Burnt River tops Pine Eagle

The combined team of Prairie City/Burnt River (4-1) beat Pine Eagle 24-6 on Friday, Oct. 8 at Prairie City.

Pine Eagle fell to 2-4.

The Panthers will travel to Echo for a 7 p.m. kickoff on Friday, Oct. 15, while the Spartans play host to Dayville-Monument on Friday at 2 p.m.

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Boise State forces 4 turnovers, knocks off No. 10 BYU

By JOHN COON

Associated Press

PROVO, Utah — Hank Bachmeier threw for 172 yards and Boise State forced four turnovers in a 26-17 upset victory over No. 10 BYU on Saturday, Oct. 9.

Cyrus Habibi-Likio ran for a season-high 75 yards and a touchdown, and Andrew Van Buren added a season-high 60 yards and a touchdown to help the Broncos (3-3) snap a two-game losing streak in the series.

The Broncos held the Cougars (5-1) to a single touchdown over the final three quarters after blowing second-half leads in losses to UCF and Nevada.

"We finally finished the second half," Bachmeier said. "I think we've always been capable of doing it."

Jaren Hall threw for a

career-high 302 yards and a touchdown for BYU, and Tyler Allgeier ran for 73 yards and a touchdown. The Cougars outgained Boise State 413-312 in total yards.

"I felt like we moved the ball pretty well, except for a couple of drives," Hall said. "We just didn't take care of the ball and did a lot of uncharacteristic things ... and put our defense in a tough spot several times. That's pretty much the story of the game for us."

Hall looked sharp during the first quarter despite a two-game absence with a rib injury. He completed long passes to open each of BYU's first two drives. Hall punctuated the second drive with a 14-yard strike to Samson Nacua that made it 10-0.

Boise State rallied to take a 20-10 halftime, capitalizing

on back-to-back BYU fumbles. The Broncos became the first opponent to lead the Cougars at any point this season.

"Early on there, the first couple of drives they had success," Boise State coach Andy Avalos said. "It was about getting settled in and not getting rattled."

The Broncos tied it when Habibi-Likio broke free for an 11-yard sprint. Scott Matlock recovered a fumble by Allgeier at the BYU 24 to set up Boise State's first touchdown.

Boise State went ahead 17-10 on a 1-yard plunge from Van Buren. The Broncos' second touchdown came five plays after Lopini Katoa fumbled a kickoff return at the BYU 23.

"Our defense has done a really good job of getting the ball back to the offense this year," Boise State linebacker

Riley Whimpey said. "A couple of those turnovers came at crucial points in the game and set up our offense with great field position and they capitalized."

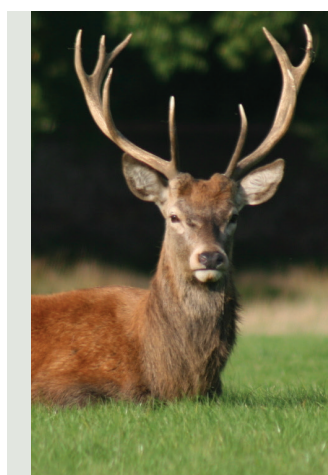
The Cougars struggled to rally after repeatedly failing to convert in the red zone in the second half. Katoa's second fumble stopped one drive at the Broncos 13. An incomplete fourth-down pass from Hall stopped a second drive at the Boise State 5.

BYU finally cut it to 23-17

midway through the fourth quarter on a 1-yard plunge by Allgeier. A 59-yard catch by Gunner Romney on the opening play of the drive set up the score.

Jonah Dalmas hit a 22-yard field goal with 3:27 left and Kaonohi Kaniho picked off a pass from Hall at the Broncos 11 to seal it.

"I saw a lot of mistakes," BYU coach Kalani Sitake said. "Against a good team it's hard to overcome those mistakes."



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