



Suzi Smith/Contributed Photo

Baker sophomore Skye Smith, No. 22, plays against Ontario's Alina Gonzalez, No. 11, and Jayden Mireles, No. 14, during a match Tuesday, Oct. 19, at Ontario.

BAKER GIRLS SOCCER

Tigers top Bulldogs, 2-0

By COREY KIRK

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The Baker girls soccer team battled a physical Ontario squad to a 0-0 tie after the first half, but the Bulldogs couldn't keep the Tigers from finding the back of the net twice in the second half.

Baker (2-9-1) lost 2-0 at Ontario in its final road match of the season on Tuesday, Oct. 19.

Baker assistant coach Christine Teegarden said the Bulldogs were expecting a rough match after a 4-1 loss to Ontario (3-7) on Sept. 30 at the Baker Sports Complex. "As with our last game

against the same team, they were extremely physical; there were many injuries throughout the game, which had our girls flustered and frustrated as the game went on," Teegarden said.

Besides scoring twice in the second half, Ontario was able to thwart the Bulldogs' offensive attack.

Teegarden said Baker players struggled to avoid getting mired in big groups, with no room to maneuver. She said the Bulldogs need to improve on that, to "release the pressure" as she describes it.

"Get out of those packed spaces, switching the field

and getting the play back into playable spaces," Teegarden said.

When the final whistle had sounded Tuesday, Teegarden was proud of the girls for great sportsmanship and spirits throughout the match.

"We wanted a win but we're happy with the improved score," she said, referring to the 4-1 loss to Ontario last month. "We know what to keep working on and we'll keep improving."

The Bulldogs' season will conclude Monday, Oct. 25 as they play host to Mac-Hi (6-4-1) for a 5 p.m. kickoff. Baker tied the Pioneers 2-2 on Oct. 5.

Curry, Warriors stun James, Lakers 121-114 in opener

By BERNIEWILSON

Associated Press
LOS ANGELES — Opening night in Hollywood went well for three quarters for Los Angeles Lakers superstars LeBron James and Anthony Davis against Stephen Curry and the Golden State Warriors.

But it was a flop for their new supporting cast, including L.A. native and former league MVP Russell Westbrook.

Curry, a two-time MVP, had 21 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists for the Warriors, who rallied from 10 points down to stun the Lakers 121-114 in a season opener Tuesday night, Oct. 19.

The Lakers went cold in the fourth quarter, and surrendered the lead halfway through the period.

James had 34 points and 11 rebounds, while Davis had 33 points and 11 rebounds. No other Lakers scored in double figures.

"Those two guys were spectacular," coach Frank Vogel said. "We're going to be pretty good if we get those type of performances. We just have to be better defensively. This is a team that is all new to each other, so everybody's finding their way a little bit."

Westbrook shot just 4 for 13 for eight points in his Lakers debut.

"Him more than anybody, it's going to be an adjustment period," Vogel said. "He's coming into our culture, our system, he's the new guy, he's got to find his way. It's difficult, when you're used to being the guy that has the ball most nights, to be able to play off others like LeBron and A.D. It's just a little bit different for him. He's going to be great for us but it's going to be an adjustment period."

James and Davis said they helped console Westbrook afterward.

"I told Russ to go home and watch a comedy," James

said. "Put a smile on his face. Don't be so hard on himself."

The Lakers had an 84-74 lead late in the third quarter after a jumper by Kent Bazemore, but the Warriors slowly closed the gap.

"We didn't finish quarters well the whole night," Vogel said. "We gave up a 38-point fourth quarter. If you do that you're going to lose most nights. Our defense is just not on a string yet. I thought we did a good job being up on Steph, but the back side was much better in the first half than the second half."

Curry made three free throws in the closing seconds of the third quarter after he was fouled taking a 3-pointer, and Jordan Poole and Dameron Lee hit 3-pointers early in the fourth.

Poole's layup with 9:17 left put the Warriors ahead for good at 91-90, and he finished with 20 points. The Warriors expanded the lead to 98-90 before the Lakers twice closed within two points.

But Curry and Nemanja Bjelica each hit 3-pointers to give the Warriors some breathing room. Bjelica had 15 points and 11 rebounds, while Lee also scored 15 points.

"We kept our composure and didn't turn the ball over in the second half, which was a huge benefit to just maintaining the pace and giving ourselves some looks," Curry said. "But the fact that everybody who was on the floor contributed in a meaningful way kind of speaks to our depth and how we want to play going forward. We're excited about that and it's good to be 1-0."

Davis and James dominated for much of the game while welcoming a slew of new teammates, including Westbrook, Carmelo Anthony, Rajon Rondo, Dwight Howard and DeAndre Jordan.

The Lakers, who won the

NBA title in the bubble in October 2020, retooled after losing to the Phoenix Suns in the first round of last season's playoffs. They retained just three players — James, Davis and Talen Horton-Tucker, who's out with a thumb injury.

James and Davis made

3-pointers and fallaway jumpers. In one remarkable sequence, James saved an errant pass and flicked it to Davis, who slammed it home for a 68-61 lead with 7:51 to go in the third quarter.

The Lakers, who went 0-6 in the preseason, led 59-53 at halftime.

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