

Baker hoops unbeaten on road trip

Baker's girls and boys varsity basketball teams continue to amass miles — and wins. After traveling across Oregon to play at Estacada on Dec. 10 and Molalla the next day, this past weekend the Bulldogs embarked on an even longer journey, to Klamath Falls. And just as with the previous trip, both teams returned to Baker City with two wins. The Bulldogs swept games at Mazama on

Friday, Dec. 17, and the next day at Klamath Union. Both teams improved to 6-2. Both teams also rose in the Class 4A rankings. The boys team, which has won four straight, is now the top-ranked team by the Oregon School Activities Association formula. The Baker girls, who have won five of their

last six games and whose two losses were each by a single point, are ranked eighth.

The boys have only one game over the next two weeks — the Bulldogs are slated to travel to Pendleton tonight for a 6:30 p.m. tipoff.

The Baker girls will play host to Crane at 8 p.m. on Dec. 28.

— Jayson Jacoby

Bulldogs' win streak hits 4

■ Baker boys rise to No. 1 in OSAA rankings

By JAYSON JACOBY

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The Baker boys basketball team sometimes needs one quarter of play to shift its offensive game into a higher gear.

But once the Bulldogs start accelerating, their opponents tend to quickly recede in the distance.

Baker followed that basic script in both of its wins during a trip to Klamath Falls this past weekend.

On Friday, Dec. 17 at Mazama High School, and the following day at Klamath Union, the Bulldogs were tied after the first eight minutes.

And in both games Baker pulled ahead in the second quarter and never trailed again.

The Bulldogs were especially efficient in their 82-49 rout of Klamath Union, dominating the final three quarters.

The previous night's 64-53 win over Mazama was more competitive, but the Vikings never seriously threatened in the final quarter as Baker made 10 of 14 free throws when Mazama committed multiple fouls to try to slow the game down.



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

Baker freshman Jaxon Logsdon, shown here on Dec. 9 against Homedale, scored a total of 16 points in the Bulldogs' wins over Mazama on Dec. 17 and Klamath Union on Dec. 18.

points and Isaiah Jones and Spike 11 each. Logsdon had seven, Hayden Younger six, Gambleton and Maddox Charbonneau five each, Lane Molina four, and Diego Quintela three.

Baker 64, Mazama 53

Isaiah Jones had eight of his game-high 23 points in the first quarter, and Spike took over in the second quarter with 10 of his 15 points, including a pair of 3-pointers, as Baker took a 30-26 lead at the break.

Jones had six points, and Logsdon five, as Baker outscored the Vikings 17-10 in the third quarter to extend its lead to 47-36 entering the final quarter.

Jebon Jones said he believes Baker, with 10 or 11 players getting meaningful minutes, is able to wear down its opponents.

"We have great depth and versatility," Jones said.

Winning streak

Since its two losses — 60-58 at Fruitland on Dec. 7, and 57-52 to Homedale on Dec. 9 in the Baker gym — the Bulldogs have averaged 77 points in their four games and twice topped 80 points.

Jebon Jones said the Bulldogs are starting to consistently play at the fast pace he prefers.

"I think they are starting to see the benefits of maintaining a good pace offensively and the benefits of sharing the basketball," he said. "The kids are taking great shots. They're becoming more comfortable with each other and becoming more and more confident in themselves."

Jones said a win tonight at Pendleton would be a nice early gift for Baker as they start their Christmas

break. The Bulldogs don't play again until Jan. 5, when they play host to Pendleton in a rematch at 7 p.m.

As for Baker's number one ranking, Jones said he doesn't pay attention to that, not this early in the season.

"It's just a number," he said.

BAKER (64)

Logsdon 3 1-2 9, Gambleton 1 2-2 4, Quintela 0 0-0 0, Younger 1 0-0 2, Spike 6 1-4 15, Harper 0 0-0 0, Jones 9 5-9 23, Long 1 0-0 3, Hobson 1 3-4 6, Charbonneau 1 0-0 2, Molina 0 0-0 0. Totals, 23 12-21 64.

MAZAMA (53)

Hubble 0 0-0 0, Kindt 3 0-0 9, Anderson 0 0-1 0, Baker 0 0-0 0, Jeffrey 7 0-2 14, Hargrave 1 0-0 3, Yancey 3 0-1 8, McDonald 0 2-4 2, Worrell 5 0-0 10, Raebel 2 3-6 7. Totals 20 5-14 53. Baker 15 15 17 17 — 64. Mazama 15 11 10 17 — 53.

BAKER (82)

Logsdon 3 0-0 7, Gambleton 2 1-2 5, Quintela 1 0-0 3, Younger 3 0-0 6, Spike 4 2-4 11, Harper 0 0-0 0, Jones 3 4-4 11, Long 8 2-3 18, Hobson 4 1-2 12, Charbonneau 2 1-2 4, Molina 2 0-0 4. Totals 32 11-17 82.

KLAMATH UNION (49)

Merhoff 1 0-0 2, Taylor 3 0-5 6, Zumwalt 4 0-1 10, Macias 3 0-0 8, Dutra 1 1-2 1, Gutierrez 1 0-0 2, Ortiz 4 2-4 10, Watah 3 0-2 8, Matheny 1 0-0 2. Totals 19 3-14 49. Baker 16 23 23 20 — 82. Klamath Union 16 13 15 5 — 49.

Baker girls improve to 6-2

■ Bulldogs prevail against Mazama, Klamath Union

By JAYSON JACOBY

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Just two days after a heartbreaking one-point loss to Fruitland on their home court, the Baker Bulldogs shrugged off the disappointment to beat a pesky Mazama team in Klamath Falls on Friday, Dec. 17.

After leading just 20-18 at halftime, the Baker girls flexed their defensive muscles in the second half, holding the Vikings to just 13 points and rolling to a 47-31 win.

"Mazama's a pretty good basketball team," Baker assistant coach Jason Ramos said. "We took control in the second half, especially on defense. We were able to get some momentum in the third quarter and extend the lead. Definitely defense was the highlight of the Friday game against Mazama."

Junior Jozie Ramos scored seven of her game-high 22 points in the decisive third quarter, and fellow junior Brooklyn Jaca scored four points as the Bulldogs boosted their lead to 33-25 entering the final quarter.

Jaca and two other juniors, Makenzie Flanagan and Macey Moore, each finished with six points.

Baker 60, Klamath Union 33

Despite an 11 a.m. tipoff on Saturday, Dec. 18, Baker rolled early against the Pelicans, leading 21-7 after the first quarter.

Junior Skylar Roy gave Baker a major boost off the bench, making all four of her free throws in the first quarter.

Klamath Union rallied in the second quarter, outscoring Baker 15-10 to cut the lead to 31-22 at halftime.

But the Bulldogs quickly did away with any prospects of a Pelican comeback with a dominating 17-4 performance in the third quarter.

Roy scored six more points and finished with a season-high 10.



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

Baker junior Jozie Ramos, shown here against Homedale on Dec. 2, led Baker to wins over Mazama on Dec. 17 and Klamath Union on Dec. 18. Ramos had a combined 40 points in the two games.

Ramos had a game-high 18 points, Moore had 14, and junior Rylee Elms had 10 points.

Jason Ramos said the Bulldogs were much more efficient offensively in both weekend games compared with the 41-40 loss to Fruitland, leading to multiple easy baskets.

BAKER (47)

Elms 1 0-0 2, Flanagan 3 0-0 6, Wilde 0 0-0 0, Gyllenberg 1 2-4 4, Pierce 0 1-2 1, Roy 0 0-0 0, Jaca 3 0-0 6, Robb 0 0-0 0, Ramos 8 5-6 22, Moore 3 0-1 6. Totals, 18 8-13 47.

MAZAMA (31)

Lease 1 3-4 5, McGirr 2 0-0 4, Baley 2 2-2 4, Leuker 0 0-0 0, Hill, 0 3-5 3, Lindow 1 4-4 6, Hamilton 2 4-4 8, Gilmore 0 0-1 1. Totals 8 16-19 31. Baker 12 8 13 14 — 47. Mazama 11 7 6 7 — 31.

BAKER (60)

Elms 5 0-0 2, Flanagan 1 0-1 2, Wilde 0 0-0 0, Gyllenberg 1 0-0 2, Pierce 1 0-0 2, Roy 2 6-8 10, Jaca 1 0-0 2, Ramos 8 2-3 18, Moore 7 0-0 14. Totals, 26 8-12 60.

KLAMATH UNION (33)

Hall 3 4-6 10, E. Garcia 1 0-0 2, Pena 2 0-1 5, Langley 1 2-4 4, S. Garcia 3 1-2 8, Neese 0 2-4 2, Harmon 1 0-0 2. Totals 11 9-17 33. Baker 21 10 16 13 — 60. Klamath Union 7 15 4 7 — 33.

Powder Valley boys win tourney, girls get 2 wins

By DAVIS CARBAUGH

The (La Grande) Observer

UNION — Union High School hosted its annual Bobcat Classic holiday basketball tournament this past weekend, bringing in a slew of girls and boys teams from around the area. Union County schools Union, Imbler, Elgin, Cove and Powder Valley were present, as well as Enterprise.

On the boys side, Powder Valley went 3-0 at the tournament and improved to 8-0 on the year. The Badgers are currently rated as the No. 1 team in the 1A OSAA rankings.

Powder Valley tops Union in tournament finale

On the final day of the tournament on Saturday, Dec. 18, Union and Powder Valley battled out a nail-biter that went down to the final

possessions. The Badgers won 57-53 behind 21 points from senior guard Reece Dixon and 18 points from junior forward Cole Martin.

The game was neck-and-neck throughout, with the score knotted at 36-36 heading into the fourth quarter. With 20 seconds remaining, Union's Bo Ledbetter hit a deep three-pointer to cut Powder Valley's lead to 54-53.

Powder's Case Olson missed two free throws on the ensuing possession, but Martin secured the rebound and scored from the post to put the Badgers up 56-53 with just over 10 seconds remaining. Ledbetter tried a three from deep to tie the game with just second left, but the shot was not good. The Badgers held on to win by four and win their eighth

straight game to start the season.

Powder Valley defeated Enterprise 79-62 on Day 1 and knocked off Imbler 51-28 on Day 2. Dixon and Martin led the way with 14 points each in the win over Enterprise, while Kaiden Dalke and Case Olson both scored a team-high 10 points against Imbler.

Crane wins girls title

Crane won the tournament on the girls side, knocking off Jordan Valley 31-29 in an exciting final matchup.

Powder Valley had a productive tournament, picking up its first two wins of the season. After a 43-40 loss to Enterprise on Day 1, the Badgers picked up big wins over Imbler and Elgin to improve to 2-7 on the year.

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