

BAKER GIRLS BASKETBALL

Bulldogs rout Mac-Hi in GOL opener

BY JAYSON JACOBY

jjacoby@bakercityherald.com

The Baker girls basketball team was expecting to open Greater Oregon League play against what's likely to be its biggest obstacle to winning the league title — the La Grande Tigers.

But it turned out quite differently.

After the scheduled Jan. 11 game against La Grande in the Baker gym was postponed due to COVID-19 issues with the Tigers, the Bulldogs instead traveled to Milton-Freewater on Friday, Jan. 14, to take on the Mac-Hi Pioneers.

And the game wasn't nearly as competitive as a contest against La Grande is likely to be.

Baker ran to a 22-3 lead after one quarter and went on to a 66-10 romp over Mac-Hi.

The Bulldogs, ranked fifth in the Class 4A standings, improved to 10-4 with their fourth win in five games.

Jozie Ramos had six of her game-high 19 points in the first quarter. Macey Moore matched Ramos with six points, and Brooklyn Jaca and Sydnee Pierce added four each as the Bulldogs took control from the opening minutes.

Baker's offense slowed a bit in the second quarter, as the Bulldogs scored half as many points.

But it hardly mattered, with Baker's defense holding the Pioneers to a single point as the Bulldogs led 33-4 at halftime.

Baker scored 22 more points in the third quarter, with seven Bulldogs scoring.

Baker takes a break from its league schedule by playing host to Vale tonight, Jan. 18, at 7 p.m.

Baker then plays host to GOL rival Ontario on Friday, Jan. 21 at 6 p.m. The Tigers are 0-9 on the season, and they lost 51-19 to Mac-Hi on Jan. 8.

BAKER (66)

Elms 2 0-2 4, Flanagan 4 0-2 8, Wilde 1 0-0 2, Gyllenberg 3 0-0 7, Pierce 3 1-3 7, Ramos 9 1-1 19, Roy 1 1-3 3, Jaca 4 0-0 7, Robb 0 0-0 0, Moore 4 0-0 8. Totals 31 3-11 66.

MAC-HI (10)

Herdon 1 0-2 2, Perkins 1 0-2 2, Rhoads 1 2-4 4, Jaimes 0 0-2 0, Badillo 1 0-0 2. Totals 4 2-10 10.

Baker 22 11 22 11 — 66

Mac-Hi 3 1 6 0 — 10



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald, File

Baker's Macey Moore, seen here against Fruitland on Dec. 15, 2021, had eight points in the Bulldogs' 66-10 win over Mac-Hi on Friday, Jan. 14, 2022.

OREGON MEN'S BASKETBALL

Oregon follows UCLA upset with win vs No. 5 USC

Ducks first team in 46 years to beat two top-5 teams on the road in 5-day span

BY JOE REEDY

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Oregon's Dana Altman has accomplished plenty in his 37 years as a college basketball coach. He added a new one to his list Saturday night, Jan. 15.

Altman's Ducks became the first team in 46 years to knock off two top-five teams on the road within a five-day span, beating No. 5 Southern California 79-69 behind Will Richardson's career-high 28 points.

De'Vion Harmon had 16 points and N'Faly Dante added 12 for Oregon (11-6, 4-2 Pac-12), which has won five straight, including an 84-81 win over third-ranked UCLA on Thursday.

The Ducks are the first team since Clemson in January of 1976 with two wins over top-five teams on the road in such short order, according to ESPN Stats & Information. They are the first to do it in the Pac-12.

"We needed a big week. Our guys knew that. I've been talking about a sense of urgency since the Baylor game and how we didn't have any more room for error," Altman said. "I haven't seen anything like it, but we needed something to jump start us."

The Ducks took control early and led throughout.

They were up 16 at halftime and extended their lead to 18 early in the second half. USC, which was playing its third game in five days, was only able to get within nine during the final 20 minutes.

Southern California came into the game fourth nationally in field goal defense, holding opponents to 36.6% shooting. Yet the Ducks hit their first four and nine of their first 13 en route to going 29 of 58 (50%) from the floor.

"USC made a couple runs, but we were able to keep pushing, playing hard and sticking to what we do. The trust between the team has grown the past couple of months," Harmon said.

Boogie Ellis and Isaiah Mobley led the Trojans with 18 points apiece. USC (14-2, 4-2) has dropped two of its last three after opening the season with 13 straight wins.

Richardson had five of Oregon's 10 3-pointers as it shot 10 of 21 from beyond the arc. The Ducks also had a 34-30 advantage in points in the paint, with 14 of their 19 two-point field goals being either dunks or layups.

Oregon took control early when it went on a 13-3 run to take an 18-8 lead five minutes into the game. The Ducks hit three 3-pointers during the spurt, including two by Richardson.

Ellis hit two straight shots from beyond the arc to pull the Trojans within 32-27 with 4:01 remaining before the Ducks closed the half with a

13-2 spurt to take a 45-29 advantage. Richardson had eight points during the late run, and Eric Williams Jr. scored five.

The Ducks extended their lead to 55-37 five minutes into the second half. Chevez Goodwin got the Trojans within nine on a free throw with 4:54 remaining, but they could not draw any closer.

"Oregon played a very high level of offense in the first half. In the second half, we played better and harder, but when you're down 16 (at halftime), it's not easy against a quality team," USC coach Andy Enfield said.

Big picture

Oregon: The Ducks had a 6-6 record in late December but have regained their stride and could make a bid to jump back into the rankings after a strong performance this week.

"I still think we've got so much room to grow into. I think our execution can get so much better," Altman said.

USC: The Trojans are likely to drop out of the top 10 after struggling in all three games. They needed a late run in the second half to beat Oregon State on Thursday. USC is 2-2 since it had a 19-day layoff due to COVID-19.

"The lack of practice hurt us, but our players have to figure it out," Enfield said.

Up next

Oregon: Hosts Washington State on Thursday.

USC: Travels to Colorado on Thursday.

No. 3 UCLA beats Oregon State, 81-65

BY BETH HARRIS

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Coming off an overtime loss, UCLA paid the price in practice. The third-ranked Bruins went hard and it paid off.

Johnny Juzang scored 19 of his 24 points in the second half when UCLA pulled away to beat Oregon State 81-65 on Saturday night, Jan. 15.

"We worked on little things and intensity," Juzang said about the off-day practice. "Sharp preparation and working on being disruptive. That was a good adjustment for us."

Jaylen Clark added 11 points on 5-of-6 shooting in his first career start for the Bruins (11-2, 3-1 Pac-12). The sophomore replaced Jaime Jaquez Jr., who sat out with a left ankle injury.

"On this team, you always got to be ready," Clark said. "I really just wanted to make the most out of it."

Dashawn Davis and Jarod Lucas scored 12 points each for the Beavers (3-13, 1-5), who remain winless in five road games this season.

"We got careless in the second half," OSU coach Wayne

Tinkle said. "We really had problems — either we gave them high-percentage shots or we fouled them."

Juzang scored 10 of UCLA's first 17 points to open the second half, extending its lead to 60-44. He hit a 3-pointer and converted a three-point play, while Clark and Cody Riley picked up their third fouls.

"This is as active as they've been on defense in a long time," Tinkle said. "They really got to the rim and hit some mid-range shots. Coach really got them pumped up after the loss."

The Beavers also had foul trouble. Starters Warith Alatishe and 7-foot-1 Roman Silva got whistled for their third fouls within seconds of each other early in the second half. Silva and Isaiah Johnson both fouled out.

The Bruins employed a five-guard lineup at times and out-rebounded Oregon State 23-22, with Juzang grabbing six — all on the defensive glass.

"It was tough to get a rebound," coach Mick Cronin said. "Guys looked like flies next to Roman Silva out there."

Alatishe, OSU's second-leading scorer at 12.3 points, took one shot and was held scoreless in a physical game that saw players repeatedly crash to the court.

The Beavers' Dexter Akanno somehow managed to avoid injury when he huddled over the scoring table chasing the ball and landed in the empty first row. UCLA's David Singleton appeared to hit his head falling backward into his bench, but he wasn't injured.

Akanno got the Beavers' bench riled up to start the game with a fastbreak one-handed dunk. They kept it close early when both teams shot 70%.

But the Bruins dominated the rest of the half, outscoring Oregon State 20-11 to lead 43-35 at the break. Five different Bruins scored, led by Jules Bernard with seven and Tyger Campbell with six.

For the third straight game, only relatives of players and coaches — totaling 141 — were allowed in Pauley Pavilion because of surging COVID-19 cases. Fake crowd noise was pumped in.



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