

**POWDER VALLEY BOYS BASKETBALL**



Cole Martin (23) goes for a layup during a match between North Powder and Condon at North Powder High School on Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022. The Powder Valley Badgers won 80-63 against the Condon Blue Devils in the OSAA 1A State Championship playoff.



Powder Valley's Kaden Krieger (20) tries to get past the defense of a Condon defender during the Badgers' 80-63 win over the Blue Devils in the OSAA 1A State Championship playoff on Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022.



The Baker Black seventh grade boys basketball team has qualified for the state middle school tournament March 11-13 in the Bend area.

**Baker 7th grade hoops team on to state**

Baker City Herald  
The Baker Black seventh grade boys basketball team has qualified for the state middle school tournament on March 11-13 in the Bend area. To qualify, teams must finish first or second in a qualifying tournament. Baker played at The Dalles Winter Classic last weekend, finishing second. Baker opened by beating Boardman, 47-27, then beating Endicott Basketball, of Golden-dale, Washington, 48-17. Endicott advanced through the bracket to earn a rematch with Baker, and Baker again prevailed, 42-30, to advance to the championship game against Gorge Elite, a select all-star team. Baker lost the final but qualified for the state tournament, which is open to only "school-based" teams. All Baker players are Baker Middle School seventh graders. Team members are: Gavin Combs, Kane Hellberg, Ezaiah Suarez, Tristan Klecker, Jake Christensen, Jace Whitford, Brayden Whitebread, Quin Wellman, Ryder Nimmo, Gabe Schwartz, Hayden Churchfield, Ben Nudd, Colten Shank.

**Badgers roll past Condon in playoffs**

**Powder Valley can clinch state tourney berth with win over Trinity Lutheran Friday**

BY DAVIS CARBAUGH  
The (La Grande) Observer  
NORTH POWDER — Just three days after a heartbreaking 59-51 loss to Nixyaawii in the Old Oregon League district championship on Saturday, Feb. 19, the Powder Valley boys basketball team bounced back with a state-

remaining in the first half. Despite seven more points in the second quarter from Barrera, the Badgers led 49-32 at the half. "We just went on a run and it's tough to stop us when we get on a run," Kyle Dixon said.

"We just have to push it, that's our game." In the third quarter, Powder Valley pushed its lead to 20 at one point and saw the victory come closer and closer. Krieger continued to score at will, adding eight more points. Another 11 points from the post player in the fourth quarter helped the Badgers close out an 80-63 home victory. Cole Martin scored in the paint well for Powder Val-

ley, tallying 14 points. Kaiden Dalke and Case Olson tallied seven points each. After losing a hard-fought, slower-paced game against Nixyaawii just days earlier, Powder Valley put itself back in the right frame after a solid showing. "It was good for us," Kyle Dixon said. "We came out a lot better today. I know we're a good enough team to win it all. We just need to keep that intensity every night"

**BAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL**  
**BMS hoops teams top Burns, Grant Union**

Baker City Herald  
Baker's seventh grade and eighth grade girls basketball teams won easily over Burns on Friday, Feb. 18, at Baker Middle School. The seventh graders won 66-6. Lily Logsdon was the leading scorer with 20 points. Colbi Bachman had 16 points. Baker won the eighth grade game 57-2. Gwen Rasmussen had 24 points, and Raegan Gulick 16. Both Baker teams also beat Grant Union on Feb. 15, at John Day. In the seventh grade game, Baker won 69-7. Lily Logsdon

had 13 points and Macey Morgan 10. Baker won the eighth grade game, 59-2. Jaxyn Ramos was the leading scorer with 24 points. Gwen Rasmussen had 22 points, Raegan Gulick 17 and Reagan Ritter 14. Baker was scheduled to play Pendleton on Wednesday, Feb. 23.



**Baker boys to play host to Sisters Saturday**

The Baker boys basketball team will try to take its first step toward a berth in the Class 4A state tournament by playing host to Sisters in a play-in game on Saturday, Feb. 26, at 3 p.m. in the Baker gym. The Bulldogs are 17-6 on the season, and ranked seventh in the state. Sisters is 9-14 and had a 2-10 record in the Oregon West Conference. That conference includes three teams ranked in the top eight — Cascade, second; Philomath, fifth; and Stayton, eighth. Of Sisters' 14 losses, six were to that trio, as the Outlaws lost two games to each team. Baker and Sisters had three opponents in common this season:

- Estacada, Madras and Mazama. The results:  
**Estacada**  
• Baker won 77-66 on Dec. 9  
• Sisters won 44-43 on Dec. 2  
**Madras**  
• Baker won 72-68 on Jan. 7  
• Sisters won 44-41 on Dec. 28  
**Mazama**  
• Baker won 64-53 on Dec. 17  
• Sisters lost 59-48 on Dec. 30  
If Baker beats Sisters, its most likely opponent in the next round would be Gladstone, and Baker would have to travel for the game on March 4 or 5, with a berth in the state tournament on the line. The state tournament will be March 10-12 in Coos Bay.



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