

## BAKER TRACK AND FIELD

# Baker has strong start to track season

## Anna Belding wins 2 events, Emma Baeth wins 1

BY JAYSON JACOBY

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The Baker track and field teams opened the season with a series of strong performances at the Ontario Icebreaker meet on Thursday, March 17.

"I was really pleased with our veteran kids, and we saw a lot of promising things from our younger kids," Baker coach Suzy Cole said.

Baker junior Anna Belding won two events — the 200 and 400 dashes.

"She's looking great," Cole said of Belding. "She was very aggressive. She had a great meet."

Baker's other individual champion was senior Emma Baeth in the 800.

"That's what we were hoping from her," Cole said.

Sophomore Ryann Paulsen was second in the javelin.

Freshman Sofia Kaaen placed third in the 1,500, and senior Sydney Lamb was third in the 3,000.

Team scores were not available.

On the boys side, freshman Daniel Brown placed second in the 3,000, and sophomore Dash Bloomer was second in the triple jump.

Bloomer also finished third in the javelin and 300 hurdles.

Junior Thaddeus Pepera also competed in multiple events, placing third in the high jump and seventh in the 110 hurdles. He was also a member of the 4x400 relay team that finished third.

Sophomore Malaki Myer took on the challenge of running the 100, 200 and 400 dashes, placing fifth in the 100, eighth in the 200 and third in the 400.

Baker junior Angel DeArcos was second in the 400.

Powder Valley also competed in the meet, and the Badgers swept the sprints.

Senior Kaden Krieger won the 100 and 200, and junior Jackson Chandler was first in the 400.

Krieger also finished second in the high jump, and Reece Dixon was second in the long jump.

Cole said she's excited about the rest of the season for Baker, in part because she has the largest contingent of assistant and volunteer coaches she's had in more than 20 years.

That's immensely helpful in ensuring that athletes have more individual attention as they hone their technique, she said.

Assistant coaches are Laurel Luschen, Robbie Langrell and Karissa Kingsbury. Volunteers are Dakota Keys, Jill Snow, Noah Cheney and Mike Johnson.

### Boys (Baker and Powder Valley results)

- 100: 1st, Kaden Krieger, PV, 12:12; 4th, Reece Dixon, PV, 12:23; 5th, Malaki Myer, Baker, 12:32; 8th, Wyatt Hawkins, Baker, 12:47;
- 200: 1st, Kaden Krieger, PV, 24:30; 2nd, Jackson Chandler, PV, 24:95; 8th, Malaki Myer, 25:52; 13th, Angel DeArcos, 26:04;
- 400: 1st, Jackson Chandler, PV, 55:84; 2nd, Angel DeArcos, 56:46; 3rd, Malaki Myer, 56:96
- 800: 9th, Jordan Mills, 2:27.21; 10th, Peyton Waters, 2:28.62
- 1,500: 4th, Seth Mastrude, 4:51.92; 7th, Daniel Brown, 5:01.49; 8th, Peyton Waters, 5:07.46; 13th, Karsten Cikaneck, 5:20.73; 17th, Tanner Lucas, 5:48.89; 20th, Allen Bedolla, PV, 6:04.43
- 3,000: 2nd, Daniel Brown, 10:41.72; 6th, Seth Mastrude, 11:14.40; 8th, Karsten Cikaneck, 12:18.86; 13th, Wade Hawkins, 15:55.92; 14th, Tanner Lucas, 15:56.27
- 110 hurdles: 7th, Thaddeus Pepera, 24.72; 8th, Jacob Mills, 29.86
- 300 hurdles: 3rd, Dash Bloomer, 45.93; 5th, Thaddeus Pepera, 46.75; 13th, Angel DeArcos, 58.43
- 4x100 relay: 7th, Baker, 57.68 (Gauge Birmingham, Reeve Damschen, Izek Cleveland, Kayden Gavin)
- 4x400 relay: 3rd, Baker, 4:05.47 (Daniel Brown, Jordan Mills, Thaddeus Pepera, Angel DeArcos)
- Shot put: 19th, Jacob Mills, 30-8; 23rd, Izek Cleveland, 29-0; 33rd, Dillon Multon, 26-7; 40th, Tristan Mulkey, 25-2; 45th, Kevin Gutierrez, 19-11
- Discus: 12th, Dillon Multon, 86-9; 14th, Jacob Mills, 85-1; 28th, Colton

Birmingham, 70-2; 30th, Izek Cleveland, 66-8; 33rd, Tristan Mulkey, 65-9; 51st, Kevin Gutierrez, 46-1

• Javelin: 3rd, Dash Bloomer, 113-7; 4th, Colton Birmingham, 112-4; 21st, Izek Cleveland, 84-6.5; 25th, Gauge Birmingham, 78-5; 36th, Tristan Mulkey, 63-8

• High jump: 2nd, Kaden Krieger, 5-8; 3rd, Thaddeus Pepera, 5-6

• Pole vault: 5th, Reeve Damschen, 8-6; 6th, Gauge Birmingham, 7-6

• Long jump: 2nd, Reece Dixon, PV, 19-1.5; 4th, Jackson Chandler, PV, 17-11.5; 6th, Wyatt Hawkins, 17-8; 20th, Reeve Damschen, 16-2.5

• Triple jump: 2nd, Dash Bloomer, 39-6.5; 7th, Reeve Damschen, 34-6.5; 17th, Gauge Birmingham, 28-7; 18th, Dillon Multon, 19-5

### Girls (Baker and Powder Valley results)

- 100: 7th, Ayla Bingham, PV, 14.32; 12th, Alexis Conant, 14.81; 25th, Lillee Henry, 15.70; 38th, Lani Pierce, 17.31
- 200: 1st, Anna Belding, 28.31; 5th, Ayla Bingham, PV, 29.21; 21st, Lillee Henry, 33.24; 25th, Lilly Collins, 34.08; 28th, Lani Pierce, 35.05; 33rd, Avery Collier, 37.75
- 400: 1st, Anna Belding, 1:05.79; 16th, Lilly Collins, 1:22.70
- 800: 1st, Emma Baeth, 2:31.38; 4th, Emma Timm, 2:51.75
- 1,500: 3rd, Sofia Kaaen, 5:56.03
- 3,000: 3rd, Sydney Lamb, 12:18.25
- 100 hurdles: 7th, Alexis Conant, 20.96; 8th, Jayden Whitford, 22:20
- 300 hurdles: 5th, Jayden Whitford, 1:00.85
- 4x100 relay: 8th, 1:00.09 (Lani Pierce, Jayden Whitford, Anastasia Johnson, Alexis Conant)
- 4x400 relay: 3rd, 4:48.73 (Anna Belding, Emma Baeth, Emma Timm, Jayden Whitford)
- Shot put: 5th, Abby Cox, PV, 26-5.5; 11th, Ryann Paulsen, 24-1; 18th, Montana Williams, 22-1; 22nd, Lilly Collins, 21-0; 33rd, Hadley Wallace, PV, 18-7
- Discus: 13th, Abby Cox, PV, 58-4; 16th, Montana Williams, 56-6; 19th, Evan Rexroad, 53-0; 22nd, Lilly Collins, 48-2; 31st, Hadley Wallace, PV, 35-9
- Javelin: 2nd, Ryann Paulsen, 97-0; 10th, Montana Williams, 60-0
- High jump: 6th, Alexis Conant, 4-2; 11th, Evan Rexroad, 4-0
- Pole vault: 4th, Sofia Kaaen, 6-0
- Long jump: 20th, Sofia Kaaen, 12-2.5

## NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

# Memphis holds off Boise State rally

BY ANNE M. PETERSON

Associated Press

PORTLAND — Lessons from a tough start to the season helped Memphis weather a second-half challenge by Boise State on Thursday, March 17.

DeAndre Williams had 14 points, Jalen Duren made a crucial basket down the stretch and the ninth-seeded Tigers survived their first-round game against the Broncos with a 64-53 victory in the NCAA Tournament.

The Tigers (22-10), whose poor start to the season had coach Penny Hardaway dropping expletives in a press conference, are into the second round in the West Region and will play top-seeded Gonzaga on Saturday. The Bulldogs downed No. 16 seed Georgia State, 93-72.

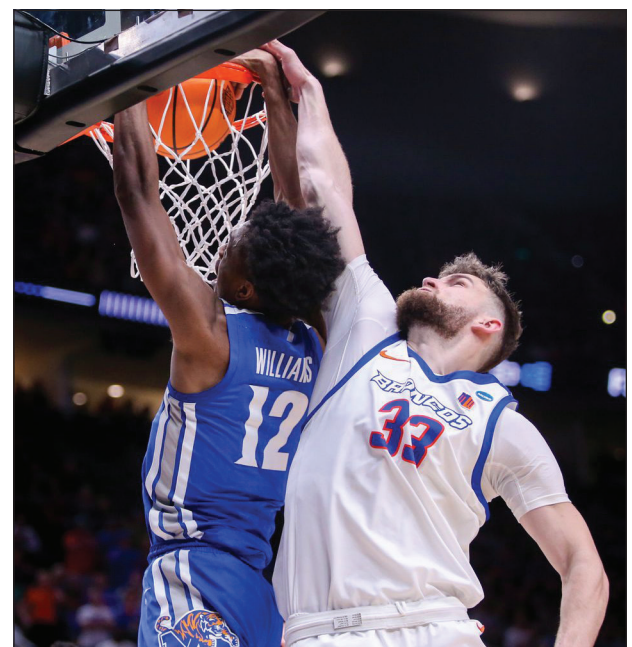
"I just felt like (Hardaway) did a great job of preparing us for that moment. Just throughout my past and my history, I've always been in games where I could be up 20 or down 20, and the game is never over," Duren said. "Coach Penny put us in the right spots, that always help us get through every time."

Duren finished with 10 points and 11 rebounds for the Tigers, who were 9-8 after 17 games but went on a late-season charge to reach the tournament for the first time since 2014. The Tigers have now won 13 of their past 15 games.

Abu Kigab had 20 points to lead the eighth-seeded Broncos (27-8), the Mountain West regular-season and tournament champs, who were making their first appearance in the tournament since 2015.

Boise State trailed by 19 at the half but, taking advantage of a cold snap by the Tigers, narrowed the gap to 42-35 with 9:45 left. The Tigers had scored just four second-half points before Williams' dunk with 9:18 left got them going again.

Kigab hit a 3-pointer and



Sean Meagher/The Oregonian-TNS

**Memphis forward DeAndre Williams (No. 12) dunks past Boise State forward Mladen Armus as the Tigers face the Broncos in the first round of the NCAA Tournament at Moda Center in Portland on Thursday, March 17, 2022.**

a short jumper to get Boise State within 49-43 with 5:55 remaining, but Williams answered again with a 3-pointer for the Tigers. And when the Broncos closed to 56-51 with 1:26 left on Naje Smith's layup, and the teams traded foul shots, Duren's layup pushed the margin to 60-53 to give Memphis some breathing room.

Alex Lomax, hobbled in the first half by an ankle injury, added some clinching free throws for the Tigers.

It was a disappointing finish to a dream season for longtime coach Leon Rice, whose Boise State teams had been dumped from the NCAA Tournament in First Four games their past two trips. The Broncos beat San Diego State to win the Mountain West tourney title and their 27 wins set the school record for a single season.

"That's a team that's putting it together," Rice said of the Tigers. "I know they had a rough stretch and I know they started out in top 10 in the nation, and you see why.

But they worked through some stuff throughout the year and they've turned it on right now and they've got it going."

Memphis had the nation's top recruiting classes, led by Duren and fellow five-star talent Emoni Bates, but Hardaway struggled to find a solid lineup until January — Bates had not played since Jan. 27 because of a back injury.

The Tigers have hit their stride down the stretch, though, reaching the title game of the American Athletic Conference tourney before losing to Houston. And they kept that momentum going into Thursday's first-round game, going on an 8-0 run early to take a 27-17 lead when Bates hit a 3-pointer with 4:26 left in the half.

Lomax hit a 3 a few minutes later that gave Memphis a 38-19 lead at the break, but he came down hard and appeared to injure his left ankle. He was limping as he headed for the Tigers' bench but returned to start the second half.



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