

## BAKER BASEBALL DOUBLEHEADER AGAINST ONTARIO

## Bulldogs romp past Ontario

**Bulldogs, now 4-0 in league play, brace for key doubleheader against La Grande**

BY IAN CRAWFORD AND JAYSON JACOBY

Baker City Herald

Baker pitchers Silas Carter and Logan Capon each allowed Ontario just two hits, and the Bulldog batters were equally dominant as Baker rolled past the Tigers 14-0 and 11-1 in a doubleheader Friday, April 15, 2022, at the Sports Complex.

Carter, who threw in the first game, and Capon both earned complete-game, five-inning wins as Baker improved to 4-0 in the Greater Oregon League on a chilly, cloudy afternoon.

Carter had five strikeouts and didn't walk a batter.

Capon struck out seven Ontario batters.

Offensively, Baker scored

all the runs it would need in the first inning of both games, with three runs in the first game and six runs to open the second game.

In the opening game, Baker scored all three of its first-inning runs with two outs.

Hudson Spike doubled with one out, and after the second out he stole third and scored on a passed ball.

After Capon and Thomas Smithson singled, Cole Hester drove in both with a ground ball up the middle.

Baker broke the game open with seven more runs in the second inning. Jaxon Logsdon and Capon had back-to-back two-run doubles. Hester drove in another run with a single, and Connor Chastain had another two-run double to cap the inning.

Hester was 3 for 3 with four RBIs, Capon was 3 for 3 with 2 RBIs, and Logsdon 2 for 4 with 2 RBIs.

In the second game Ontario

took a 1-0 lead on an unearned run in the top of the first.

But Baker responded immediately, scoring six runs in the bottom of the first.

Spike had an RBI single and Chastain hit a sacrifice fly as Baker took advantage of multiple walks and errors.

Baker added single runs in the second, third and fourth innings, before ending the game by 10-run rule with two more runs in the bottom of the fifth.

After dominating both Ontario and Mac-Hi to open its league season, Baker faces what's likely to be a much more formidable challenge on Wednesday, April 20, when La Grande comes to the Sports Complex for a key league doubleheader starting at 2 p.m.

The Tigers are 13-1 overall and also opened the league season by sweeping both Mac-Hi and Ontario. La Grande beat Mac-Hi 12-0 and 17-0, and Ontario 14-1 and 19-1.

## GAME ONE

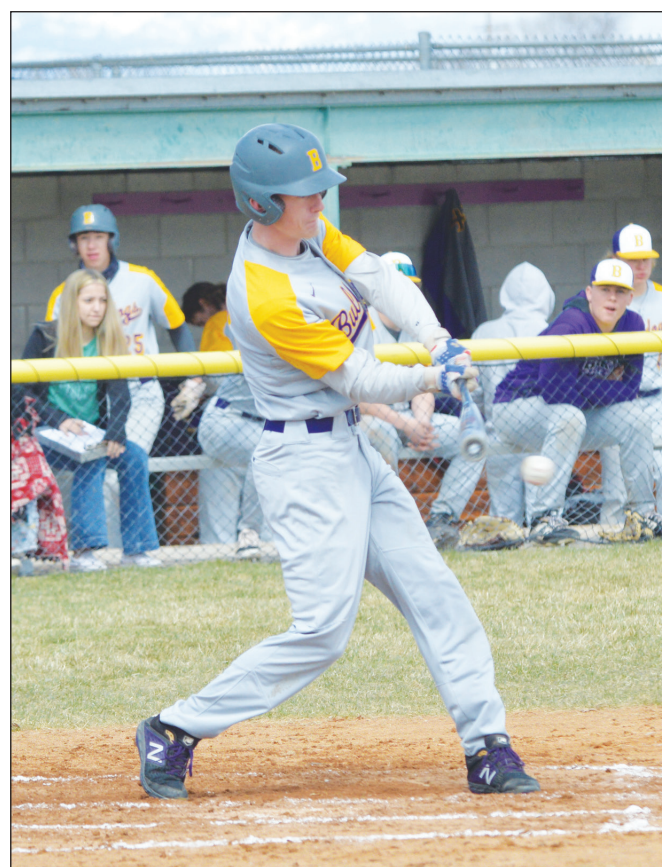
Ontario 0 0 0 0 0—0  
Baker 3 7 4 0 x—14  
James and Cole. Carter and Logsdon.

2B: Capon, Chastain, Hester, Logsdon, Smithson, Spike.

## GAME TWO

Ontario 1 0 0 0 0—1  
Baker 6 1 1 1 2—11  
Cole and Calderon. Capon and Logsdon.

"They are the reigning league champs," Smith said of the Tigers. "We are definitely playing better baseball as of late but will need to play error free defense and our pitchers have to command the strike zone and trust our defense. Offensively, we have to be confident and aggressive at the plate. It will be a great test for our baseball team."



Ian Crawford/Baker City Herald

Baker's Connor Chastain bats against Ontario during a doubleheader on Friday, April 15, 2022, at the Sports Complex. Chastain had 3 RBIs on the day as Baker won both games easily.

## BAKER SOFTBALL DOUBLEHEADER AGAINST ONTARIO

## Bulldogs outhit Tigers but drop both games

BY IAN CRAWFORD AND JAYSON JACOBY

Baker City Herald

The Baker softball team rallied to take a 7-6 lead over Ontario in the first game of a doubleheader Friday, April 15, at the Sports Complex, but the Bulldogs couldn't hold the lead and went on to lose both games and fall to 0-4 in the Greater Oregon League.

After Baker scored four runs in the bottom of the fifth to lead 7-6, the Tigers immediately responded with five runs in the top of the sixth. Baker went scoreless in the final two innings of a 12-7 loss.

Although Baker outhit Ontario in both games — 16 to 13 in the first game, 8 to 5 in the second — the Bulldogs struggled to convert hits into runs. Ontario won the second game, 7-1, with Baker scoring its lone run in the last inning.

"We were able to hold them to fewer runs in game two because we did a better job of keeping the ball in the park," Baker coach Sonny Gulick said. "We did a much better job keeping the top of their order off of the bases. That is attributed to Kaycee Cuzick keeping them off balance at the plate."

Cuzick, who pitched all 14 innings of the doubleheader, allowed just five hits and had seven strikeouts in Baker's 7-1 loss in the second game.

In the first game, Ontario had three doubles to go with one triple and two home runs.

Belle Navarrete hit both homers and the triple and drove in five runs.

But Baker was in position to get a win thanks to the fifth-inning rally that turned a 6-3 deficit into a 7-6 lead.

The rally started with a blast, as Makayla Rabourne hit a solo homer to left field.

Cuzick followed with a single, and Kaci Anderson doubled to advance courtesy runner Kaydence Thomas to third. Thomas scored on an error, and Candace Peterson had an RBI single to even the score at 6-6. Te'yan Coley tagged up at third and scored on Ashlyn Dalton's pop up to give Baker the lead.

It didn't last long. Navarrete hit a three-run homer in the top of the sixth to give Ontario a lead it wouldn't relinquish.

"We took another loss while outhitting our opponent," Gulick said. "If we can clean up our defensive mistakes we have a chance to win that first game."

Baker committed three errors in the game.

The defensive struggles persisted in the second game.

Ontario scored one of its two first-inning runs on an error. Navarrete hit her third home run of the doubleheader in the third as the Tigers extended their lead to 4-0.

Dalton had two doubles, in the fifth and seventh innings, but she was stranded on base both times.

## GAME ONE

Ontario 1 1 2 2 0 5 1—12  
Baker 3 0 0 4 0 0—7  
Navarrete and K. Kemble. Cuzick and K. Anderson.

2B: Aldrich, K. Anderson, Coley. 3B: Aldrich. HR: Rabourne.

## GAME TWO

Ontario 2 0 2 0 0 1 2—7  
Baker 0 0 0 0 0 1—1  
Calderon and K. Kemble. Cuzick and K. Anderson, O. Anderson (3).

2B: Dalton 2.

"Ashlyn made solid contact a couple of times to give us a runner in scoring position but we could never bring her in," Gulick said.

Baker scored its lone run on Sydney Fry's ground ball in the final inning.

Baker, which dropped to 5-6 on the season, will try to get its first league win on Friday, April 22, when La Grande comes to the Sports Complex for a doubleheader starting at 2 p.m. The Tigers are 6-4 overall and 2-0 in league play, after beating Ontario 13-2 and 15-1 on April 7.

"We continue to give ourselves opportunities to win but have not managed to get a league victory at this point," Gulick said. "We will have another opportunity for that first league win against a very good La Grande softball team Friday."



Ian Crawford/Baker City Herald

Baker shortstop Ashlyn Dalton, center, prepares to field a ground ball against Ontario on Friday, April 15, 2022, at the Sports Complex. Pitcher Kaycee Cuzick is at right, and at left is third basemen Brooklyn Rayl.

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