BAKER FOOTBALL

Bulldogs avenge loss to Cascade in season opener

Baker relies on potent passing attack in 34-26 win on the road

BY JAYSON JACOBY

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Baker had to cover more than 350 miles on the ground to get to its first football game of the 2022 season, but once the Bulldogs arrived at Cascade High School they pretty much stayed in the air.

Baker junior quarterback Paul Hobson and a trio of receivers made for a potent aerial attack as the Bulldogs held off the Cougars 34-26 on Saturday, Sept. 3 in Turner.

The win avenged Baker's 2021 season-opening 35-0 loss to Cascade at Baker Bulldog Memorial Stadium.

Hobson completed 18 of 25 passes for 260 yards and four touchdowns. He had no interceptions.

"He played a great game," Baker coach Jason Ramos said of Hobson. "He's showing his maturity, making better decisions. He looked like a seasoned quarterback."

Fifteen of Hobson's 18 completions were distributed among the trio of juniors Hudson Spike and Malaki Myer, and freshman Rasean Jones.

Spike (six catches for 120 yards)



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald, File

Baker quarterback Paul Hobson, seen here in a 2021 game, threw four touchdown passes in the Bulldogs' 34-26 win over Cascade on Sept. 3, 2022.

and Myer (five catches for 64 yards) each had two touchdown catches.

Jones had four catches for 57 yards. The Cougars struggled to defend Spike, at 6-foot-2, and Jones, at

Their height, combined with their leaping ability, gives Baker a formidable duo, Ramos said.

"Having two guys that can do that is going to create match up problems for any opponent," he said. "We're going to utilize that."

Hobson also completed passes to senior Tate Powell and junior Dash Bloomer.

We have a great collection of receivers," Ramos said. "We're really excited about that."

Junior running back Kayden Garvin had Baker's other touchdown.

Baker took control in the first half, leading 27-12 at the intermission.

Cascade was threatening to cut the lead in the third quarter, but the Baker defense stopped the Cougars on fourth down inside the Baker 20 to preserve the lead.

"We got key stops at key times, and that was a big one," Ramos said.

After a Baker punt, Cascade scored one of its four running touchdowns, and the 2-point conversion narrowed the lead to 27-20.

But Baker quickly responded with its final touchdown to boost the lead

"I was very proud of them for their answer in that moment," Ramos said. "We knew we could move the ball on

Cascade scored in the final minute, but Baker recovered the ensuing onside kick and ran out the clock.

Ramos said he would have preferred to have put the game away earlier, but he was pleased with how the

team handled the onside kick.

The game was a major contrast in offensive styles.

Although total yardage was nearly even — Cascade had 380 total yards, Baker 373 — the Cougars relied almost exclusively on their rushing attack, with 311 yards on the ground and just 69 passing yards.

Ramos said he expected Cascade would emphasize its rushing game, and try to use its size advantage on the offensive line.

"We knew coming in they were going to do what they do," he said.

Ramos said he was generally happy with Baker's run defense, which held the Cougars to an average of 4.9 yards per carry.

"We would like to tighten up some things defensively, but we played good enough to win," he said.

Baker was slightly more balanced on offense, with 260 passing yards and 113 rushing yards.

The Bulldogs distributed the 24 carries fairly evenly.

Sophomore Jaxon Logsdon was the leading rusher, with 36 yards on eight carries. Hobson gained 34 yards on five carries, Garvin had 17 yards on seven rushes, and Powell had 26 yards on four carries.

Defensively, Logsdon and Powell had seven solo tackles each. Junior

Izek Cleveland had six solo tackles, and Myer and Jones five each.

Ramos said it was crucial for Baker to take a two-score lead in the first half, since Cascade, with its limited passing attack, "isn't built to come back quickly" from a large

He said the Bulldogs were excited not only about avenging last year's loss to Cascade, but about playing well against a solid team.

"I think they realized the importance of that game," Ramos said. "It was a chance to show where we're at as a team. It was a good statement game."

The Bulldogs will have a chance to make perhaps an even bigger statement this Friday, Sept. 9, when they open their home schedule against Homedale, Idaho.

Ramos said the Trojans will be a formidable foe.

"They're really good this year," he said. "It's a next level challenge for us this week."

Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

Baker then returns to the road, traveling to Vale to take on the Vikings at 6 p.m. PDT on Friday, Sept.

"Vale traditionally is good," Ramos said. "We don't have any easy games on our schedule."

BAKER, POWDER VALLEY VOLLEYBALL

Badgers top Baker in tournament

Baker City Herald

The rivalry between Baker and Powder Valley high schools played out again in the championship match of a volleyball tournament Friday, Sept. 2 at BHS, with the Badgers prevailing, 25-22, 25-15.

Pool play extended longer than expected, so bracket play was abbreviated so each team in the tournament had at least one regulation match.

That pitted Baker and Powder Valley, the two top seeds, in the championship match.

"After a long, hot day, the Badger girls were able to remain focused and dup deep for some great energy and amazing playing," Powder coach Marji Lind said. "Overall, it was a great day. Girls had wonderful attitudes, worked hard and grew as a team. Just where you want a team to be at this point in the season, making some mistakes but getting stronger as a unit each game. Love their spirit and positive energy. "

The Badgers improved to 3-0 on the season. Powder Valley swept Pine Eagle 3-0 on Sept. 1, and swept Nyssa 3-0 on Aug. 30.

In pool play during the Baker tournament, the Badgers went undefeated, beating Mac-Hi 25-5, Nyssa 25-13, Echo 25-22, Union 25-16, Ontario 25-17 and Uma-

The Bulldogs will have a chance to avenge the loss when the Badgers return to BHS for a 6 p.m. match on Thursday, Sept. 8.

Prairie City tournament

Baker's JV volleyball team placed second in a tournament

at Prairie City on Friday. Baker lost in two sets to Prairie City in the champi-

onship match. The Bulldogs also lost to Prairie City in their first match of the day, 25-19, 25-21. Baker then beat Huntington, 25-16 and 25-15, and split with Jordan Valley, losing 25-21 and winning 25-14, to finish second in one pool.

In bracket play, Baker beat Dayville/Monument and Wheeler/Mitchell/Spray to earn the rematch with Prai-

BAKER CROSS-COUNTRY

Bulldogs compete at Caldwell Twilight Invitational

Baker City Herald

CALDWELL, Idaho — The Baker boys placed 11th out of 19 teams and the Baker girls were 12th out of 15 teams at the Caldwell Twilight Invitational cross-country meet on Thursday, Sept. 1.

In the boys varsity meet, Thaddeus Pepera paced the Bulldogs, finishing 38th overall in a time of 17:23.28.

Other Baker results:

- Daniel Brown, 42nd,
- Angel DeArcos, 80th,
- 18:32.39
- Hunter Bingham, 85th, • Jordan Mills, 103rd,
- 19:07.57 • Karsten Cikanek, 109th,
- 19:17.24 • Seth Mastrude, 122nd,

In the girls varsity race, Sofie Kaaen was Baker's top finisher, placing 35th overall with a time of 21:40.89.

Other Baker runners:

- Emma Timm, 76th, 23:54.75
- Anna Belding, 82nd, 24:04.32
- Katie Spaugh, 89th, 24:50.43
- Tyler Gressley, 93rd, 25:10.24
- Paige Marlia, 25:25.12 Baker also had a large contingent of runners in the JV

Results from the boys JV race:

- Nathaniel Jensen, 17th, 19:54.76
- River Clark, 69th, 21:57.90
- William Spriet, 75th, 22:03.60
- Caleb Hills, 81st, 22:18.34
- Tanner Lucas, 91st,
- David Farber, 98th, 22:55.26
- Kegan Bott, 119th,
- Clark Norton, 130th, 24:15.38
- · Cade Hearne, 134th,
- Sam Nelson, 149th,
- Gideon Farber, 154th,

Baker boys soccer splits 2 games

The Baker boys soccer team traveled to Southern Oregon last weekend for a pair of matches.

On Friday, Sept. 2, the Bulldogs beat Mazama, of Klamath Falls, 4-1. On Saturday, Sept. 3, Baker lost 9-1 to Henley, also of Klamath Falls. That game was moved to Lakeview due to poor air quality in Klamath Falls. Baker has two straight home games scheduled this week, Thursday at 5:30 p.m. against McCall, Idaho, and Saturday, Sept. 10 at noon against Payette, Idaho. Both will be on the pitch at the Baker Sports

Results from the girls JV race:

- Avery Collier, 72nd, 31:16.31
- Gwen Rasmussen, 85th, 33:40.17

• Riley Hurliman, 94th,

- Sage Cuzick, 92nd,
- Lilly Collins, 100th, 36:53.21

Baker is slated to compete in the annual Catherine Creek Scamper on Friday, Sept. 9 at Catherine Creek State Park near Union.



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COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Washington rolls Kent State, 45-20

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Whether Washington is any good won't be answered for a couple more weeks.

It is pretty clear after the first game that the Huskies appear to be a lot more fun.

downs, and Washington

Michael Penix Jr. threw for 345 yards and four touchopened the Kalen DeBoer era with a 45-20 win over Kent State in a season opener on Saturday night, Sept. 3.

DeBoer's debut as Washington's head coach was highlighted by an entertaining, innovative offense that Penix — also making his Huskies' debut — ran

flawlessly against the over-

matched Golden Flashes. Penix led Washington on scoring drives on all five first-half possessions and touchdowns on the first four as the Huskies built a 31-13 halftime lead and

Only some shaky ball security kept the first half from being even more lopsided.

