

BAKER CROSS-COUNTRY

Bulldog boys 2nd, girls 5th at Wallowa

Baker City Herald

WALLOWA LAKE — With Daniel Brown and Thaddeus Pepera leading the way with top 10 finishes, the Baker boys cross-country team placed second in the Wallowa County Invitational meet on Friday, Sept. 16.

Brown, a sophomore, finished eighth overall in a time of 18:27.8.

Pepera, a senior, was 10th in 18:44.2.

Pine Eagle senior Cooper Gover placed fifth overall in 17:39.4.

"Daniel Brown is running really strong," Baker coach Suzy Cole said.

In the boys JV meet, Baker finished first, with three runners in the top four — William Spriet, 2nd, Tanner Lucas, 3rd, and Angel DeArcos, 4th.

Spriet, who is a freshman, will move to the varsity team as a result of his time, Cole said.

In the girls meet, Baker sophomore Sofie Kaaen placed fourth and the Bulldogs were fifth in the team standings.

"Sofie Kaaen continues to get stronger all the time," Cole said. "She ran really smart and patient."

Kaaen trimmed just over a minute from her time on the Wallowa Lake course from last year.

Union won the boys title, and La Grande was the top girls team.



Kcia Fletcher/Contributed Photo

Baker's Daniel Brown finished eighth in the Wallowa County Invitational cross-country meet on Friday, Sept. 16, 2022, at Wallowa Lake, helping lead the Bulldog boys to a second-place team finish.

"Friday's race was a huge success," Cole said. "In cross-country, with every course being so different, the best way to compare how a runner or team is doing is by comparing to their personal records on that course. Every runner who ran that same course last year had a PR, some by a minute."

Lucas, for instance, ran 1 minute, 50 seconds faster than



Kcia Fletcher/Contributed Photo

Sofie Kaaen was Baker's top runner at the Wallowa County Invitational on Friday, Sept. 16, 2022, placing fourth overall.

he did on the same course in 2021.

Avery Collier, who finished ninth in the girls JV race, also cut nearly 2 minutes off her time from last year.

"Avery is a different runner this year, much more confident and willing to push herself," Cole said.

"I am really excited about where we currently are and the potential we have to keep growing," Cole said. "Some of my kids are a little frustrated because they haven't ran as fast

as they did at Caldwell, which was a flat, fast course. We still have a couple more weeks until we run a fast course again, so we are working on trusting the process and being patient, but they are putting in the work and time so I have no concerns — we just have to keep positive and realize how good they are running."

Baker will travel to the Oregon Coast this weekend to compete in the Three Course Challenge on Saturday, Sept. 24 at Camp Rilea near Warrenton.

Wallowa County Invitational Baker and Pine Eagle (PE) results

Varsity Boys

Cooper Gover (PE), 5th, 17:39.4; Daniel Brown, 8th, 18:27.8; Thaddeus Pepera, 10th, 18:44.2; Nate Jensen, 16th, 19:19.4; Karsten Cikaneck, 18th, 19:29.4; Hunter Bingham, 20th, 19:37.2; Jordan Mills, 24th, 19:54.6; Gideon Tubbs (PE), 35th, 21:08.5; Seth Mastrude, 36th, 21:10.5; Gabe Brown (PE), 43rd, 21:40.5

Varsity Girls

Sofie Kaaen, 4th, 22:01.5; Emma Timm, 22nd, 23:53.2; Katie Spaugh, 23rd, 23:54.2; Gwen Rasmussen, 27th, 24:21.7; Paige Marlia, 29th, 24:44.6; Tyler Gressley, 34th, 25:59.9

JV boys

William Spriet, 2nd,



Kcia Fletcher/Contributed Photo

Baker runners competing in the Wallowa County Invitational on Friday, Sept. 16, 2022, at Wallowa Lake. From left, Gwen Rasmussen, Katie Spaugh, Emma Timm and Paige Marlia.

20:16.0; Tanner Lucas, 3rd, 20:21.1; Angel DeArcos, 4th, 20:49.3; David Farber, 8th, 21:53.0; River Clark, 9th, 21:57.5; Cade Hearne, 10th, 22:01.4; Clark Norton, 19th, 23:17.3; Sam Nelson, 25th, 24:33.5; Gideon Farber, 28th, 25:06.7; Seth Holden, 29th, 25:37.8; Dallin Guertz (PE), 34th, 27:55.7; Tristan Mulkey, 38th, 29:12.6

JV girls

Sage Cuzick, 6th, 27:23.1; Riley Hurliman, 7th, 27:52.4; Maddy Gagnon, 8th, 28:00.1; Avery Collier, 9th, 28:47.1; Evie Davis (PE), 11th, 29:14.6; Lilly Collins, 15th, 31:30.7

Middle School boys

Tristan Klecker, 23rd, 12:03.4; Orrin Anderson, 30th, 12:34.1; Jayce Allen, 46th, 14:26.1; Austin Mahon, 49th, 15:05.5

Middle School girls

Matty Gressley, 2nd, 11:19; Ruby Heriza, 18th, 12:50.9; Taryn Niday, 25th, 13:30.1; Molly Rasmussen, 28th, 13:34.6; Grace Tracy, 30th, 13:56; Anne Hindman, 33rd, 14:27.6; Anaya Sanchez, 36th, 14:50.5; Olive Carlson, 47th, 15:37.9

Sixth grade boys

Gavin Tubbs (PE), 15th, 13:31.9

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS ROUND UP

La Grande drops close decision to Rangers

BY JOHN BRAESE

EasternOregonSports.com

ESTACADA — The La Grande football team is tired of seeing the Estacada Rangers on the scoreboard. Last season, the Tigers were bounced out of the hunt for a 4A championship by the Rangers in a 44-22 loss in the quarterfinals of the state playoffs.

La Grande again saw the scoreboard read a Rangers win as Estacada downed the Tigers, 32-28 on Friday, Sept. 16. The Tigers came into the game with a 1-1 overall record after a previous week's blowout win over the Ontario Tigers.

The Tigers will now attempt to return to .500 on Friday, Sept. 23, with La Grande's first home game of the season, a matchup versus Molalla (0-3 overall). This will be the final nonleague game for the Tigers before 4A Special District 5 competition begins.

POWDER VALLEY 51, SHERMAN/CONDON 12

NORTH POWDER — Powder Valley football continues to keep the home fans happy, downing Sherman/Condon, 51-12 on Friday, Sept. 16, in 1A Special District 2-West action.

The victory continues the Badgers' perfect overall record at 3-0 and hands Powder Valley its first league win of the year.

Powder Valley will look to continue perfection as the Badgers cross the state border into Wash-

ington on Friday, Sept. 23 to meet up with the combined team of Lyle/Wishram/Klickitat in a league game starting at 7 p.m.

ADRIAN 50, COVE 0

COVE — Cove athletic director Levi Wiseman faced a difficult decision this season. With the Leopards only looking at two home games on the schedule, picking a date for homecoming came down to a date against defending state champion Adrian or waiting until the final game of the season against Elgin.

Wiseman chose the Adrian game on Friday, Sept. 16, for the pomp and circumstance of the high school tradition.

Even with the halftime show going forward, the score did not celebrate homecoming as Adrian downed the Leopards, 50-0, handing Cove the team's first loss of the season.

The Leopards (2-1 overall) travel to Dufur on Thursday, Sept. 22, to meet St. Paul (2-0 overall) in a nonleague game.

ELGIN 60, WALLOWA 0

ELGIN — The Huskies held their third opponent this season scoreless, posting a 60-0 victory over league rival Wallowa in 1A Special District 2-East play Friday, Sept. 16, in Elgin.

The win gives Elgin its first league win of the season and continues Elgin's perfect season at 3-0. Elgin has now outscored

opponents 162-0.

The Huskies continue league action on Friday, Sept. 23, with a league matchup at Imbler (2-0 overall, 0-1 league).

Other scores:

• Echo 44, Huntington 6, Friday, Sept. 16.

• South Wasco County 44, Prairie City/Burnt River 21, Thursday, Sept. 15.

• Spray/Mitchell/Wheeler 36, Pine Eagle 0, Friday, Sept. 16.

VOLLEYBALL

Powder Valley went 3-1 in the East/West Classic tournament Friday, Sept. 16 and Saturday, Sept. 17 at North Powder.

The Badgers lost 2-0 to unbeaten Damascus Christian in the championship match on Saturday. Earlier in the day Powder Valley, 9-3 on the season, swept Adrian, 2-0.

On Friday the Badgers beat Open Door Christian Academy 2-0, and beat Joseph, 2-1.

Pine Eagle fell to 0-4 on the season with losses to Spray/Mitchell/Wheeler on Friday, Sept. 16 at Halfway, and at Cove on Saturday, Sept. 17.

The Spartans pushed Spray/Mitchell/Wheeler to five sets. Pine Eagle lost in three sets at Cove.

Huntington won two straight matches last week, sweeping the Adrian JV on Wednesday, Sept. 14 and sweeping the Powder Valley JV on Thursday, Sept. 15.

BAKER SOCCER



Baker's Alan Bedolla in action against McCall, Idaho, earlier this season. The Bulldogs tied Fruitland 3-3 on Saturday, Sept. 17, 2022, at Fruitland.

Ian Crawford/
Baker City Herald

Baker boys tie with Grizzlies

BY IAN CRAWFORD
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The Baker boys soccer team played to a 3-3 tie at Fruitland, Idaho, on Saturday, Sept. 17 in a back-and-forth match with the Grizzlies.

Baker led 2-0 early. Fruitland then scored three straight goals, the last one in the second half, but Baker senior Diego Quintela netted a penalty kick with about 10 minutes left for the tie.

Baker coach Victor Benites said the Bulldogs "played good, never gave up, and I'm very much proud of all the players." Baker's record stands at 2-3-1.

"We started good, scored our first goal about 10 to 15 minutes into the game by Diego Quintela," Benites said.

About 10 minutes later, the Bulldogs' lead grew to 2-0 when junior Giacomo Rigueiro scored on a penalty kick.

Fruitland rallied with two goals before the intermission.

The Grizzlies then took their first lead at 3-2 with a goal with about 18 minutes left in the match.

Baker girls fall to Fruitland

The Baker girls soccer team's three-game unbeaten streak ended Saturday, Sept. 17 at Fruitland with an 8-1 loss to the Grizzlies.

After losing its opening match, Baker won two of its next three, with a tie in the third match.

Baker is 2-2-1 on the season. The Bulldogs played Weiser on Monday, Sept. 19 at the Baker Sports Complex.

Baker opens league play against La Grande on Thursday, Sept. 22 at 4 p.m. at the Sports Complex.

That led to Quintela's second goal. Baker returned to Idaho on Monday, Sept. 19 to take on Weiser.

The Bulldogs open league play on Wednesday, Sept. 21 by playing host to La Grande at 4 p.m. at the Sports Complex.

"We're certainly focused on preparing ourselves mentally and physically for our first league match," Baker assistant coach John Quintela said.

Flight

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Cross, who lived in Sumpter for about four years before moving to Baker City three years ago, already knew about Honor Flight before he met Anderson, who lives just across the street.

As the two became friends, Cross learned that Anderson, who enlisted in the Navy in November 1944, just before his 18th birthday, had never visited the nation's capital.

This winter Cross got in touch with Honor Flight of Central Oregon, one of 130 region hubs for the nationwide network.

He found out that although the upcoming trip was already booked, World War II veterans have priority for flights.

Which is understandable, he said, since the youngest of these veterans are, like Anderson, in their 90s.

"We're losing some every day," Cross said.

Next, Cross had to talk with Anderson and find out if his neighbor was interested in the program.

"He said, 'I'm up for that,'" Cross said of Anderson. "And here we are."

The pair drove to Redmond Tuesday, Sept. 20, where they'll catch their flight.

They'll spend two full days — Thursday, Sept. 22 and Friday, Sept. 23 — touring Washington, D.C., before returning over the weekend.

Two veterans meet

Cross said he introduced himself to Anderson after noticing that his neighbor, despite being in his early 90s, was very active, working in his yard and driving where he needed to go.

"I said, 'I need to get to know this guy,'" Cross said.

During one of those conversations, Cross learned that he shared a military background

with Anderson.

Anderson, who has lived in Baker City since 1989, grew up a long ways from any ocean, in Duluth, Minnesota.

And although he wanted to enlist in the Navy after he graduated from high school in June 1944 — the same month the Allies invaded Nazi-controlled Europe at Normandy — his mother wouldn't allow it.

Instead he worked on a ship hiring iron ore across the Great Lakes.

After learning the sailor's trade, Anderson enlisted in the Navy. After attending en-

gineering school, he was assigned first to a ship that was being repaired at Kirkland, Washington, before shipping off to the Aleutian Islands off Alaska.

During a November 2020 interview with the Herald, Anderson described his wartime experience as "lucky."

"We had submarine scares a few times but nobody ever shot a torpedo at us," he said.

Anderson was stationed in San Diego, a motor machinist's mate third class, in August 1945, preparing to participate in the U.S. invasion of Japan.

America's military leaders

expected the operation would be the costliest, in lives, of the war. Anderson would likely have been assigned to a landing craft, making sure its diesel engine kept running to deliver Marines to a beach. He knew how dangerous an amphibious assault would be.

But it never happened.

While Anderson was training, word came that Japan had surrendered after American

B-29s dropped nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

After his military service ended in July 1946, Anderson attended the Michigan College of Mining and Technology and earned a degree in mining engineering and geology in 1950. Since then he has worked at mines around the country, both as a mine manager, consultant and at times as a mine owner.



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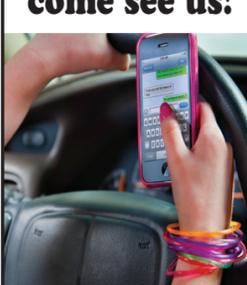
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