

## BAKER, POWDER VALLEY VOLLEYBALL



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

Baker senior Zozie Ramos goes up for a kill against Philomath on Saturday, Oct. 29, 2022, in the Baker gym.



Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald

Powder Valley's volleyball team celebrates its District 7 championship win over Echo on Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022, in the Baker High School gym.

# Bulldogs and Badgers head to state tournament

Baker City Herald

The Baker and Powder Valley volleyball teams, which played each other three times this season, with Baker winning two, will both vie for state titles in their respective divisions starting Friday, Nov. 4.

The Bulldogs will travel to Springfield High School for the Class 4A tournament.

The Badgers head for Redmond's Ridgeview High School for the Class 1A tournament.

Both events have eight teams, with two courts so matches can be played simultaneously.

**Baker**

The Bulldogs, 17-5 and ranked fifth in the state, open the tournament Friday at 8 a.m. against Tillamook. The Cheesemakers are 16-4 and ranked fourth. They advanced to the tournament by sweeping Hidden Valley on Saturday, Oct. 29.

Baker swept Philomath the same day.

Baker and Tillamook had no common opponents. If Baker wins, it would face the winner of the second 8 a.m. match, pitting Crook County against top-ranked Marshfield. The semifinal match is set for 6:30 p.m.

**Friday**

If the Bulldogs lose to Tillamook, they would play in a consolation semifinal Saturday, Nov. 5 at 8 a.m.

**Powder Valley**

The Badgers will take on longtime westside rival St. Paul on Friday at 10 a.m.

Powder Valley, 24-7, is ranked sixth. St. Paul is 26-5 and ranked third.

The teams had four common opponents this season — Crane, Stanfield, Damascus Christian and Perrydale.

Powder Valley was 2-3 against those teams. St. Paul was 3-1.

If the Badgers beat St. Paul, they would play Friday at 6:30 p.m. against the winner of the North Douglas/Crane match.

If Powder Valley loses to St. Paul, the Badgers would play in a consolation semifinal Saturday at 8 a.m.

**Class 4A State Volleyball****Friday, Nov. 4  
QUARTERFINALS**

Baker vs. Tillamook, 8 a.m.

Crook County vs. Marshfield, 8 a.m.

Mazama vs. The Dalles, 10 a.m.

Henley vs. Cascade, 10 a.m.

**SEMIFINALS**

Crook County/Marshfield winner vs. Baker/Tillamook winner, 6:30 p.m.

Mazama/The Dalles winner vs. Henley/Cascade winner, 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, Nov. 5**

Consolation semifinals, 8 a.m.

4th/6th place match, noon

3rd/5th place match, noon

Championship, 6 p.m.

**Class 1A State Volleyball****Friday, Nov. 4  
QUARTERFINALS**

Umpqua Valley Christian vs. Damascus Christian, 8 a.m.

Rogue Valley Adventist vs. North

Clackamas Christian, 8 a.m.

Powder Valley vs. St. Paul, 10 a.m.

North Douglas vs. Crane, 10 a.m.

**SEMIFINALS**

Umpqua Valley Christian/Damascus Christian winner vs. Rogue Valley Adventist/North Clackamas Christian winner, 6:30 p.m.

Powder Valley/St. Paul winner vs. North Douglas/Crane winner, 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, Nov. 5**

Consolation semifinals, 8 a.m.

4th/6th place match, noon

3rd/5th place match, noon

Championship, 6 p.m.

## OREGON STATE FOOTBALL

## Gulbranson likely to start again for Beavers

Quarterback has won all three of his starts

BY LES GEHRETT

Albany Democrat-Herald

Oregon State coach Jonathan Smith said during his Monday, Oct. 31 press conference that Chance Nolan took part in practice earlier in the day but is unlikely to be ready for the Beavers' game at Washington on Friday.

"Still limited, didn't do the whole thing, so we'll see how he kind of responds and works through the week," Smith said of Nolan's participation in practice.

If Nolan is not ready to return, Ben Gulbranson will make his fourth consecutive start at quarterback. Oregon State (6-2, 3-2 Pac-12 Conference) is 3-0 in Gulbranson's first three career starts.

Smith also noted that starting left guard Marco Brewer suffered a season-ending injury against Colorado. Redshirt junior Heneli Bloomfield is next up on the depth chart at that position.

The coach also announced that defensive back Alton Julian will not return this season. He has been working his way back from the leg injury which took him off the field last season.

"Wasn't recovering the way we wanted, took another direction and so he will not play this year," Smith said.

Neither running back Trey



Sean Meagher/The Oregonian

Oregon State quarterback Ben Gulbranson (No. 17) throws on the run as the Beavers face the Washington State Cougars in a Pac-12 college football game at Reser Stadium in Corvallis on Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022.

**Friday Night In Seattle**

Oregon State returns from its bye week by traveling to Seattle to take on the Washington Huskies Friday, Nov. 4 at 7:30 p.m. Both teams are 6-2 overall and 3-2 in Pac-12 games.

The game will be televised on ESPN2.

Lowe nor tight end Luke Musgrave will be available this week.

Kicker Atticus Sappington was able to practice on Monday and depending on his progress this week may be able to return to action against the Huskies, Smith said.

**Bye week**

Smith said the team practiced twice during the bye week

and coaches also spent a lot of time going over video of the first eight games of the season. This process of self-scouting is important to help coaches see how opponents might approach these final four weeks of the season.

"I don't think we're far away in the passing game to be more explosive. We've taken some shots and we've got to tighten that up," Smith said. "I think defensively, you can start to see trends of how people want to attack us."

The team also started early preparation for the upcoming game at Seattle. What quickly becomes clear is that Washington quarterback Michael Penix Jr. is a unique talent.

He has completed 68% of his pass attempts this season with 22 touchdowns and four interceptions, and he leads the na-

tion in passing yards per game (366.8).

Smith said Penix is "an accurate and great thrower of the football."

"This guy can change his arm angle, he's just accurate. Tight windows. He likes to throw it and he wants to throw it first. Plenty of ability to extend (the play). A lot of quarterbacks have that, but this guy's a great thrower of the football," Smith said.

**Beavers ranked 24th**

Oregon State entered the Associated Press Top 25 poll this week at No. 24.

This is the first time the team has been in the Top 25 during Smith's tenure and this is the program's first appearance in the poll since the season-ending ranking in 2013, when the Beavers were 25th.

Smith downplayed the significance of the midseason rankings. He acknowledged that it might be helpful as coaches talk to recruits, but he stressed that the team's goal is to see where it can in the final rankings.

"It's a little bit like preseason rankings we're not into and paying a bunch of attention to," Smith said. "I will say, though, I think it's a recognition of the work these guys put in and progress we're making. But we're definitely into postseason rankings."

## Nix's profile this season rises with No. 8 Oregon

BY ANNE M. PETERSON

Associated Press

EUGENE — Bo Nix is fitting right in at Oregon with flashy plays and gaudy stats.

The transfer from Auburn is even getting some Heisman buzz with 31 touchdowns so far this season — 20 via pass and 11 more on the ground.

He had six touchdowns this past weekend in No. 8 Oregon's 42-24 victory at California, the latest in a run of seven straight victories for the Ducks.

Nix threw for 412 yards and three touchdowns, and ran for 59 yards and three more. On Monday, he was named the Pac-12 Offensive Player of the Week. He's the only FBS quarterback who has had three games this season with three rushing touchdowns.

His 11 rushing touchdowns are the most for Oregon since Marcus Mariota had 14 in 2014. Mariota finished with 38 passing touchdowns that year and won the Heisman.

"I don't think anyone can sit here and watch football right now and watch our quarterback play and not tell me he's an elite quarterback. This guy's playing at an extremely high level and he makes great decisions for our team. He's an elite competitor, an elite

leader, he has phenomenal character, he's throwing the ball really well and making great decisions," Oregon coach Dan Lanning said.

It didn't appear at first that this season would be a career year for Nix.

The Ducks stumbled in their season opener to Georgia. But since then Oregon has been on a roll and is the only undefeated team in the Pac-12, averaging 48 points per game over their winning streak.

Nix insists he's only as good as the players around him.

"I think it's just scheme, and the players around me. I think we've done such a good job of just reading the play that's called. When I'm out there when I'm doing it, it feels like I'm not doing a whole lot because I don't have to: I've just got to get the ball to the play-makers around me," he said after Oregon's victory over UCLA two weeks ago.

Alabama's Bryce Young is vying to win a second consecutive Heisman Trophy. Other quarterbacks in contention include Tennessee's Hendon Hooker, Ohio State's C.J. Stroud and USC's Caleb Williams. Michigan running back Blake Corum is also in the mix.

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