BAKER BASKETBALL

Bulldogs return key players from state tournament hoops squads

Baker City Herald

Baker's girls and boys basketball teams will have ambitious goals when they tip off the 2022-23 season next week.

Both teams welcome back most of the key players from last year's squads, both of which advanced to the Class 4A state tournament in March.

Jebron Jones returns for his fifth season as boys coach.

Jason Ramos begins his second season as girls coach.

The Baker girls, who finished with a 22-6 record (6-0 in the Greater Oregon League) brought home the fourth-place trophy, beating Cascade and Marist Catholic in the consolation bracket after losing to Corbett in the quarterfinals.

The Bulldog boys (19-8 overall, 5-1 in league) lost to Junction City and Philomath in the state tournament at Coos Bay.

Both teams will be busy during December with non-league schedules that include multiple road trips.

The boys will open the season at the Wilsonville Invitational tournament Dec. 2-4, then travel to Meridian, Idaho, for another tournament Dec. 15-17.

Both the boys and girls teams will travel to Stayton between Christmas and New Year's Day to compete in the SCTC Holiday Classic from Dec. 28-30.

Both teams will also play games on three straight days, Dec. 8-10.

The Bulldog girls will play all three at home, starting with Homedale on Dec. 8, then against Estacada on Dec. 9 and Molalla Dec. 10.

The Baker boys will travel to Homedale on Dec. 8, then return to BHS for games against Estacada on Dec. 9 and Molalla on Dec. 10.

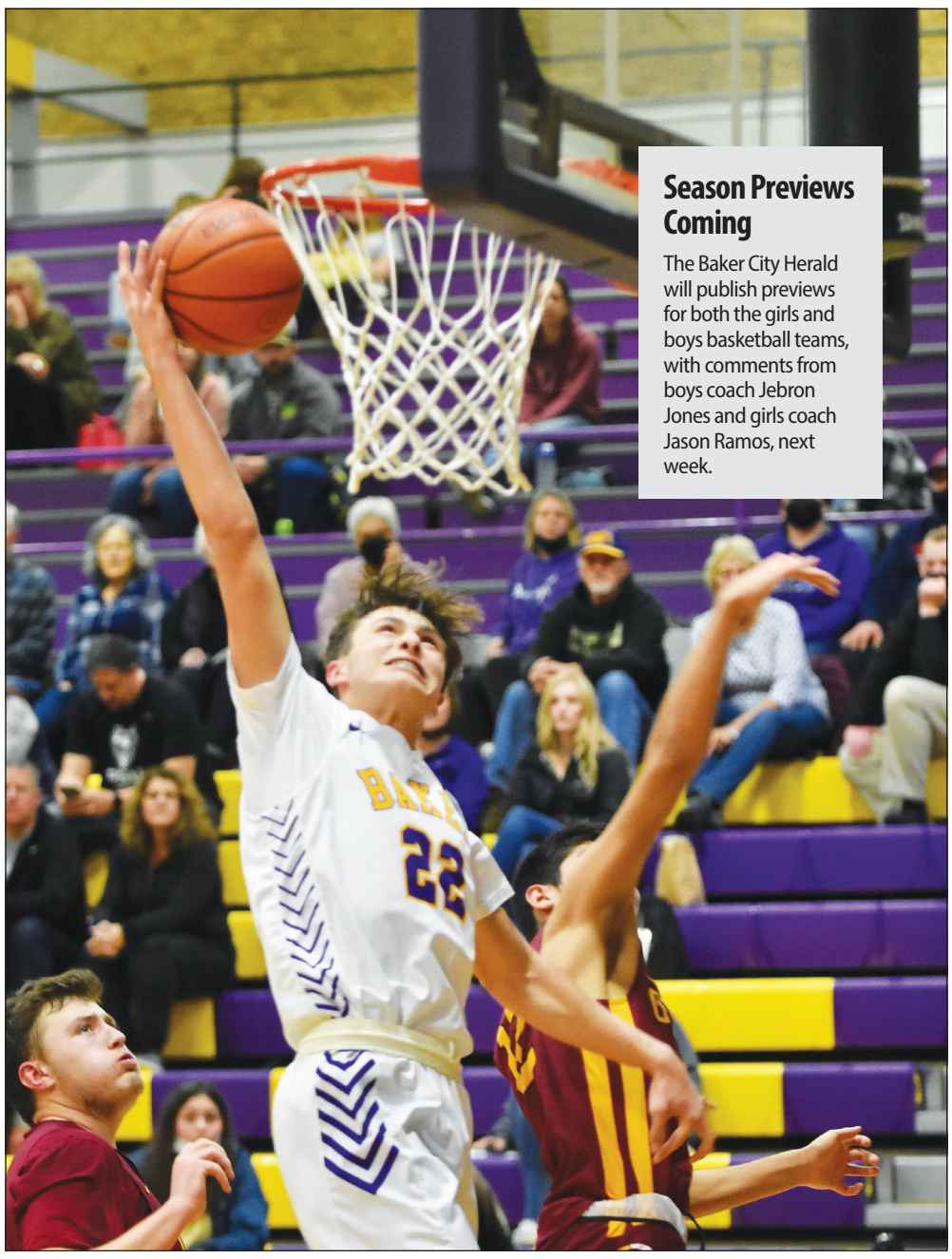
Estacada and Molalla are completing a home-and-home series with the Bulldogs, as both Baker teams traveled west last December to play those two schools.

New-look Greater Oregon League

The league remains at four teams but with one change — Mac-Hi drops out, replaced by Pendleton.

That makes for a more daunting league schedule for the Bulldogs. The Baker girls split two games with the Buckaroos last season, while the Baker boys lost their one game against Pendleton.

Baker opens the league schedule by playing host to La Grande on Jan. 11. The girls game is set for 6 p.m., the boys game to follow.



Season Previews Coming

The Baker City Herald will publish previews for both the girls and boys basketball teams, with comments from boys coach Jebron Jones and girls coach Jason Ramos, next week.

Lisa Britton/Baker City Herald, File

Baker's Paul Hobson rises between Ontario defenders Tyce Helmick, left, and Diego Rodriguez on Friday, Jan. 21, 2022, in the Baker gym.

BAKER BOYS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Friday, Dec. 2, vs. Crescent Valley at Wilsonville Invitational, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 3, at Wilsonville Invitational (TBD)

Sunday, Dec. 4, at Wilsonville Invitational (TBD)

Thursday, Dec. 8, at Homedale, 6:30 p.m. PST

Friday, Dec. 9, vs. Estacada, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 10, vs. Molalla, 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 13, at Fruitland, 6:30 p.m. PST

Thursday, Dec. 15-Saturday, Dec. 17, at Pro Image Sports Holiday Classic, Meridian (TBD)

Wednesday, Dec. 28-Friday, Dec. 30, at SCTC Holiday Classic, Stayton (TBD)

Friday, Jan. 6, vs. Madras, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 7, vs. Crook County, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 11, vs. La Grande, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 14, vs. Junction City at The Dalles (TBD)

Friday, Jan. 20, at Ontario, 6:30 p.m. PST

Friday, Jan. 6, vs. Madras, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 24, vs. Pendleton, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 26, at Nyssa, 6:30 p.m. PST

Friday, Jan. 27, at La Grande, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 31, at Vale, 6 p.m. PST

Friday, Feb. 3, at Pendleton, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 10, vs. Ontario, 7:30 p.m.

BAKER GIRLS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Thursday, Dec. 1, at Homedale, 6:30 p.m. PST

Friday, Dec. 2, vs. Mazama, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 3, vs. **Klamath Union,** 11 a.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 6, at Fruitland, 6:30 p.m. PST

Thursday, Dec. 8, vs. Homedale, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 9, vs. Estacada, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 10, vs. Molalla, 11 a.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 13, vs. Fruitland, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 28-Friday, Dec. 30, at SCTC Holiday Classic, Stayton (TBD)

Friday, Jan. 6, vs. Madras, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 7, vs. Crook County, 11 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 11, vs. La Grande, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 17, at Vale, 6 p.m. PST

Friday, Jan. 20, at Ontario, 2 p.m. PST

Tuesday, Jan. 24, vs. Pendleton, 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 26, at Nyssa, 5 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 27, at La Grande, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 31, vs. Vale, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 3, at Pendleton, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 7, vs. Burns, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 10, vs. Ontario, 6 p.m.

OREGON BASKETBALL

UConn routs Ducks at PK tourney

BY SEAN HIGHKIN
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Tristen Newton scored 23 points, leading No. 20 UConn to an 83-59 win over Oregon on Thursday night, Nov. 24 at the Phil Knight Legacy tournament.

Jordan Hawkins scored 18 points, Adama Sanogo added 12 and Joey Calcaterra came off the bench to score 11 for the unbeaten Huskies (6-0).

"This is what I came here for," Newton said. "Big games, big moments."

Kel'el Ware led the Ducks (2-3) with 18 points and nine rebounds off the bench. N'faly Dante contributed 15 points.

Oregon took an 8-5 lead in the opening minutes, but it was all Huskies after that. Newton scored 21 points in the first half on 5-for-6 shooting from 3-point range as UConn to a 39-28 lead at the break.

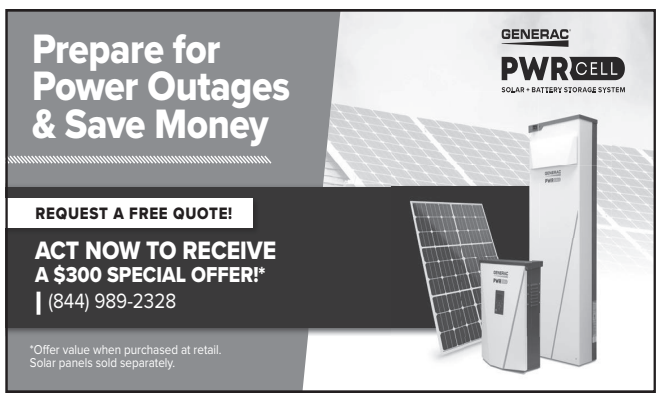
The Ducks were unable to fight their way back into the game in the second half and UConn's lead ballooned to as many as 29 points.

"Just disappointed with the way we got out tonight and guarded," Oregon head coach Dana Altman said. "They got a lot of energy from all those threes they were hitting."

UConn shot 47.6% from the field (30 for 63) and 45.9% (17 for 37) from 3-point range. Newton, Hawkins, Sanogo and Calcaterra accounted for 15 of UConn's 17 3-pointers. Alex Karaban added two more.

"We're a very good 3-point shooting team," UConn head coach Dan Hurley said. "Unlike our past teams, it's a team that can go on runs because we've got multiple guys that can hurt you from the 3-point line.

Oregon struggled to find its rhythm, turning the ball over 17 times and shooting 33.3% (5 for 15) from beyond the arc.



OREGON STATE BASKETBALL

Beavers nearly upset No. 8 Duke

BY SEAN HIGHKIN
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Kyle Filipowski had 19 points and 14 rebounds as No. 8 Duke held off a challenge from Oregon State and pulled out a 54-51 win in the opening game of the Phil Knight Legacy tournament on Thursday, Nov. 24.

Ryan Young added 11 points and 15 rebounds off the bench and was the only other Blue Devils (5-1) player to score in double figures.

Jordan Pope led the Beavers (3-2) with 14 points, five rebounds, two assists and two steals. Dexter Akanno hit two 3-pointers and scored 11 points.

"Some big-time winning plays," Duke coach Jon Scheyer said. "You have to find a way to gut it out. I'm proud of figuring out a way to win."

Duke took a 29-27 lead into halftime as the teams traded big 3-pointers with less than a minute to go in the period. Akanno hit one with 46 seconds remaining to give the Beavers a one-point lead and drew a foul on Filipowski but failed to convert the four-point play. Duke's Jeremy Roach knocked down a 3 at the other end with 15 seconds left, giving the Blue Devils a two-point lead at the break.

"You have to find a way to gut it out. I'm proud of figuring out a way to win."

— Jon Scheyer, Duke coach

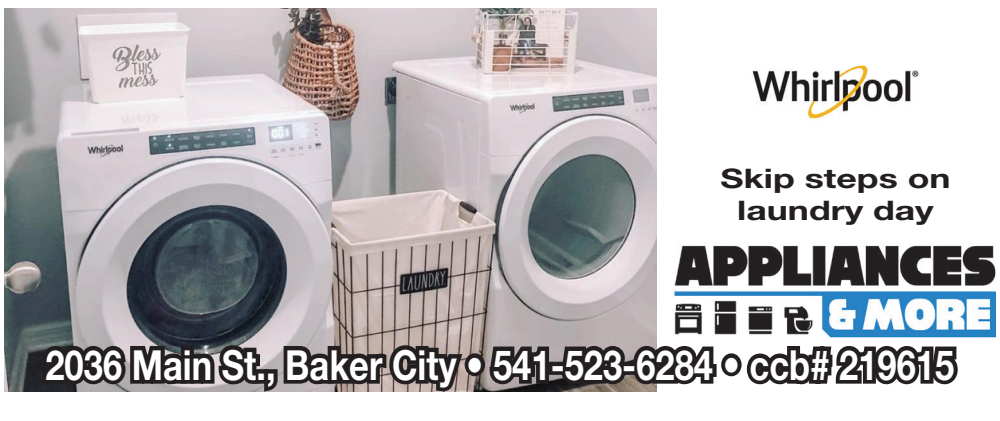
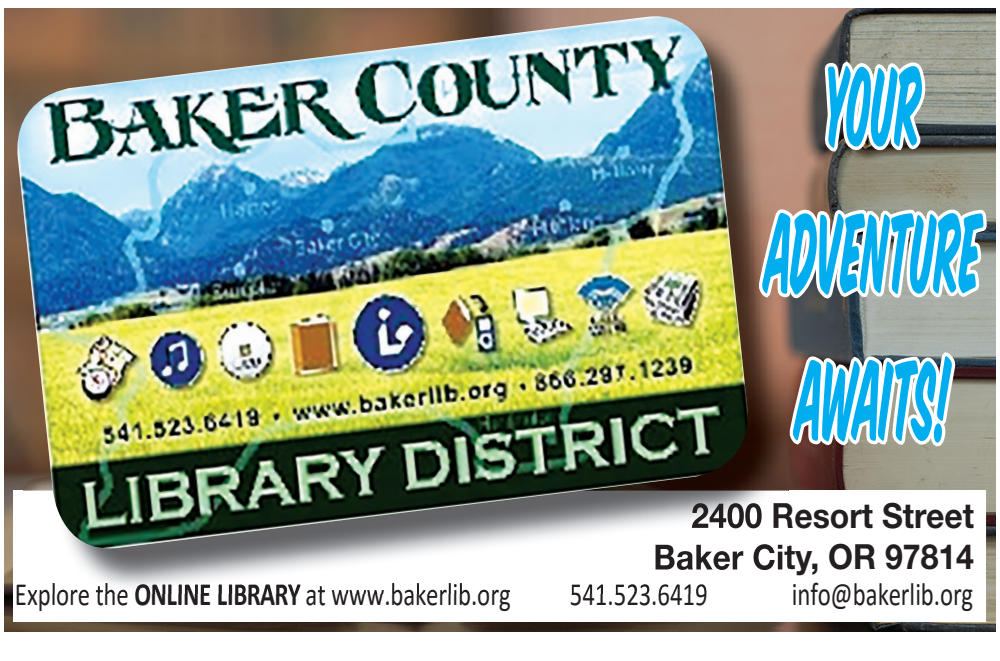
Oregon State opened the second half on 6-0 run to take a four-point lead. The Beavers led much of the second half before Duke used a 10-2 run, punctuated by a basket by Filipowski that tied the game at 45 with eight minutes remaining.

"He's a big-time competitor," Scheyer said of Filipowski. "He hasn't gotten off to the best starts, but when the game's on the line, he's not afraid. The three of course was big to tie it, but those three offensive rebounds he had were big-time."

A basket by Jeremy Roach gave the Blue Devils the lead and Duke never trailed again.

Oregon State had two looks at 3-pointers that would have tied the game on its final possession, but failed to convert before the buzzer sounded.

"I'm proud of our guys, it was a hell of an effort," Beavers head coach Wayne Tinkle said. "Obviously, we're very disappointed we didn't come out with a win. This young group, we challenged them. We told them it was going to be a fight and they were willing to accept it and, I thought, battled their tails off."

Duke outrebounded Oregon State 43-28 and forced 11 turnovers.

Oregon State's shooting kept them in it until the end. The Beavers shot 40.5% from the field and 30% from 3-point range.