

# BALL

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Helping Delaney with coaching are Kyle Myers, Aaron Kienzle, David Blood, Dominic DeHaven and Travis Heiple.

Blood, DeHaven and Heiple mainly coach junior varsity, however, Delaney said they take turns assisting where needed.

Gravley, Tyler Manitsas and Jerry Carter are this year's varsity senior team members.

Delaney said Gravley is doing well pitching, and Manitsas, the catcher, is one the team looks to for leadership. The coach also noted Carter's progress.

"He's improved a ton," Delaney said. "I never thought he would be starting outfielder and a key hitter."

Gravley said the team is trying to continue their upward climb "rather than ride the roller coaster," he said.

Manitsas said coming together "as a family" is working for them.

"We definitely mesh a lot more than we have in the past, and that's been helping

us out a lot," he said.

"I like how even if we're 'out-talented' on the field, we can out-heart the other team and get the victory when we play as a team," Carter said.

Looking to the remainder of the season, Delaney is optimistic.

The top two in league will continue on to the district tournament. After Wallowa forfeited two games last week, Grant Union was tied with Burns with a 6-0 league record.

The Prospectors are scheduled to play a doubleheader against the Hilanders in Burns at 12 noon Friday, a contest that will determine who tops the league.

"To beat Burns will be a challenge, but hopefully, we're up to it," Delaney said. "We'll do everything in our power to get prepared."

He said his team has been making progress.

"We feel like we're climbing a peak right now and need to ride it out to the end," he said.

"They're a great group of kids who can play great baseball if they believe in themselves, and that's our job as coaches to build their confidence and help them understand their potential."



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Grant Union centerfielder Mariah Meyerholz goes for the ball, backed up by Sydney Stearns in the May 1 game against Vale.

# PROS

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Railey Namitz and Janelle King each had a hit, and Babe Nash had a walk and a double.

Game Two was "completely different offensively," coach Nash said.

Grant Union had 18 hits,

including multiple hits from Ravyn Walker, Sydney Stearns, Mariah Moulton, Babe Nash and Jordden Cameron.

Walker and Moulton had doubles and Babe had a triple.

"Everyone had at least one hit," said coach Nash.

Grant Union's offense got off to a good start, with two runs scored in the first inning.

They scored three more in the third, one in the fourth, and finished strong with six runs in the fifth, toppling the Pirates with the 10-run rule.

Riverside's Game One pitcher stayed in the circle for Game Two until the fifth inning.

Stearns pitched the first three innings with 3 strikeouts, giving up 2

walks, 1 hit and 2 runs.

Madden came in for the last two innings and gave up no hits.

Grant Union has been tied at 6-6 in league with Riverside/Arlington and Enterprise/Joseph/Wallowa.

When Grant Union last faced Echo/Stanford, they lost the first game 8-9 and won the second, 8-2 on the road.

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*the corner's*  
**HOT SHOT**  
OF THE WEEK

**Ty McDaniel**

School: Grant Union  
Grade: 9  
Parents: Sam & Kelley McDaniel  
Sport: Baseball

*What I like best about my sport:* "It's a team sport, not just a one-man show - it requires the team's help. It's always been one of my biggest passions."

*Coach's Comment:* "He had to step up and fill in as catcher - he ended up catching five games in three days (three junior varsity and two varsity). He muscled up and took care of the job. We're really pleased with how hard he's working and how quickly he's learning his craft as catcher."

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# Panther plan: Maximize success

Athletes show prowess in track, field events

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

PRAIRIE CITY – The Prairie City team has been busy this week preparing for the IA Special District 4 District Championship set for Thursday at the Baker High School track.

There are seven regular participants on the team, coached by Joe Weymouth.

He said the team is working hard.

"We're taking care of details such as starts and improved techniques in all the throws and jumps, and trying to maximize their chances," he said.

This is Weymouth's ninth year coaching high school track.

Weymouth has volunteer help from Joe Hitz with pole vaulting and hurdling events.

This year Prairie City School has a middle school coach, Kerry Foster.

It's been helpful to have Foster coaching.

"There is a tremendous amount of learning that goes on at that level, especially for sixth graders," Weymouth said.

He said most athletes on the

## 2015 PC SENIORS



Michel Hitz



Samantha Molt

varsity team have made regular progress throughout the season.

Of special note, junior Garrett Hitz broke the school record for pole vaulting this year.

He also placed first in all of his events at the High Desert League meet: the 110 hurdles, 300 hurdles, javelin and pole vault.

For IA at state, he's currently in third place in 110 hurdles, fifth in 300 hurdles, seventh in javelin and second in pole vault.

This summer he'll attend a

Down Under Sports international track meet at Australia's Gold Coast, representing Oregon.

The two seniors on the Prairie City team, Michel Hitz and Samantha Molt, have focused on improving, while also having fun.

"It's a blast," Michel said. "It's an individual sport, and I enjoy it because my brother Garrett and I do similar events, and our dad helps us because he did some of those events in high school."

She is in her second year of track and field and competes in the 100-meter hurdles and javelin.

Molt competes in all the throwing events: discus, javelin and shot put.

"Sometimes I do a fourth event, but mostly throwing," she said.

She's making the most of her senior year.

"I've always enjoyed track," she said. "You can focus on improving yourself. When you see other athletes struggling you can help them out and vice versa."

She said she's come a long way in discus, gaining 15 feet since last year.

"When I get to the district meet, I hope to surprise everyone," she said.

Weymouth, who's coached various sports for 26 years and high school track for nine, said he's always enjoyed working with the athletes, and in track and field.

"Placing high is great, but making improvements is always considered a success," he said.

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**WHEN:** Thursday, May 28, 2015 at 6:00 PM  
**LOCATION:** Grant County Regional Airport Meeting Room  
**FEATURED PRESENTATION:**  
**Cramer Fish Sciences – Adequacy of Grazing Move Triggers For Protecting Steelhead Habitat**

Steve Cramer will be sharing information regarding the relationships between livestock grazing and stream habitats. Steve will also present the findings from his recent analysis report undertaken to determine if monitoring data of federal grazing allotments would substantiate that current grazing use indicators are predictive of habitat effects potentially harmful to steelhead populations.