



Five GU athletes vault to state

Three are district champs in their field events

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

EUGENE – Five Grant Union track and field athletes are traveling to Hayward Field in Eugene this week, hopeful their season of hard work will pay off.

The three girls and two boys are competing in the OSAA State Track and Field Championships, hosted by University of Oregon.

The Prospector athletes received qualifying marks at last Friday's 2A-6 Wapiti League

Districts, held for the first time at Grant Union's Three Flags Field in John Day.

On the girls team headed for state, Kori Pentzer, a freshman, is district champion in the long jump and triple jump. She's seeded first in state for the long jump and second in the triple, just 1/2 inch away from first place. She is also seeded fifth in the 100-meter hurdles.

Zoie Rude, also a freshman, earned district champion status for three events. In javelin, she's seeded second at

state; pole vault, seeded third; and shot put, seeded fourth.

Chelsie Kodesh, a sophomore, is seeded seventh in javelin. The district champion in discus, she is seeded 10th in that event.

For the boys, senior Michael Ashmead is 13th in the state for long jump, and he placed second at the district meet.

Andrew Copenhaver, a junior, is seeded in a four-way tie for eighth place in pole vault; He also placed second at the district meet.

Grant Union head coach



Grant Union track team members headed to state competition this week include: Michael Ashmead (long jump), Andrew Copenhaver (pole vault), Chelsie Kodesh (discus, javelin), Kori Pentzer (long jump, triple jump, 100 hurdles) and Zoie Rude (discus, shot put, pole vault).

The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Sonna Smith said Antonio Dancer, a junior, came close to qualifying for state, setting personal records in the long jump with a mark of 35-8.00 and the triple with 18-0.00.

Rainy, chilly weather

marked the district meet, which drew seven schools.

"When you have weather like that, it hampers the kids who might have made state," Smith said.

"I was amazed at how many

kids still had good records," she said.

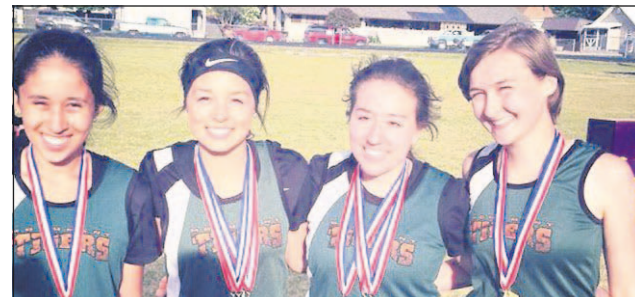
That there were only five competing in the triple jump helped the Grant Union girls.

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ON TRACK GU track stars soar at district meet



The rainfall doesn't slow down Grant Union's Zoie Rude, competing in shot put at the district meet.



Contributed photo

The four-member Monument girls track team is bound for the state championship this week in Eugene. From left: Dinorha Vidrio Landin (4x400), Treiquella Osborne (discus, long jump, triple jump), Maya Thomas (1,500, 3,000, 4x400) and Emily Dailey (high jump, 4x400).

1A athletes head for state championships

PC's Garrett Hitz seeded 1st in pole vault

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

BAKER CITY – After last Friday's 1A-Special District 4 Championship in Baker City, two Grant County track teams are headed for state this week.

Monument is sending four athletes, and Prairie City will send one.

The Monument girls going to state are senior Treiquella Osborne, competing in the discus, triple jump, long jump and 4x400 relay; senior Emily Dailey, high jump and 4x400; junior Maya Thomas, 1,500, 3,000 and 4x400; and sophomore Dinorha Vidio Landin, 4x400.

Osborne is seeded second in state for discus, third for long jump and fifth for triple jump.

"We had a great district showing," head coach Earl Pettit said of the district meet.

"The four girls on our team will all be competing in Eugene, while our lone boy, sophomore Hayden Schafer, finished just out of qualifying in third place in javelin and discus."

Schafer scored 19 team points.

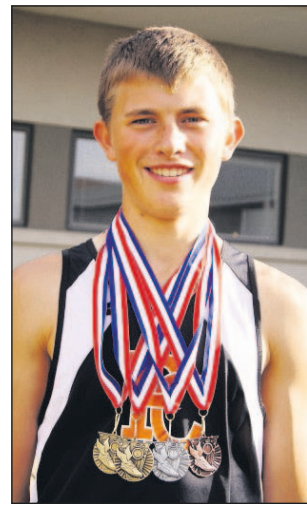
"I'm very proud of the athletes and thankful to them for their dedication, their parents for their support, and the assistant coaches for their expertise – these elements made it the most successful season yet."

Prairie City

Prairie City's Garrett Hitz qualified in all four of his events – pole vault, javelin, 110-meter hurdles and 300-meter hurdles – while also setting personal records in each.

He broke his own school record in pole vault at Baker, reaching 13-0.

Hitz is seeded first at state in pole vault, tied with Jared James of Condon/Wheeler.



Contributed photo/Nancy Hitz

Prairie City School track and field athlete Garrett Hitz is "well-decorated" after the 1A-SD4 District Championship in Baker City. He won first in pole vault, first in javelin, second in 300-meter hurdles and third in 110-meter hurdles.

He sits at fourth in javelin and 110 hurdles, and seventh in 300 hurdles.

Prairie City head coach Joe Weymouth said that at the Baker meet, just .03 of a second separated Hitz and two other athletes in the 110 hurdles – Hitz took third.

"You couldn't tell who won until the official results came in," he said. "All three points." "The four girls on our team will all be competing in Eugene, while our lone boy, sophomore Hayden Schafer, finished just out of qualifying in third place in javelin and discus."

Weymouth said four other Panthers who logged personal records at the Baker meet were Ethan Camarena in the 200-meter dash, Michel Hitz in the 100-meter hurdles, Amaya Zweggart in the 100-meter dash and Megan Camarena in both shot put and discus.

Dayville

On the Dayville School girls team, Cody Perkins and Destiny Brown both achieved a personal records in the 100-meter dash.

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Eagle photos/Angel Carpenter

Grant Union's Philipp Jaletzky races in the 300-meter hurdle event at the 2A-6 Wapiti League District Championships – this was the first district meet to be held at Grant Union's new track.



Grant Union Prospector Antonio Dancer flies forward. He set personal records in the long jump and triple jump.



Grant Union's Trejan Speth sets his pace in the 1,500-meter run at the district meet.



Grant Union's Kori Pentzer flies to a first place finish; she's seeded first in state in the long jump and second in the triple jump.

Lady Pros earn trip to district playoffs

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

NYSSA – The Grant Union/Dayville/Prairie City softball team, after sweeping Nyssa on Monday, will travel Wednesday to the first round of district playoffs.

The local team, which finished fourth in the 3A-5 Eastern Oregon League, will face the Elgin/Imbler Huskies in Elgin for a 4 p.m. game.

Against the Bulldogs in Nyssa, the Lady Prospectors had decisive wins – 23-10 and 23-16.

Sydney Stearns pitched two innings, with Natalie Stearns finishing the game.

In Game One, Grant Union fired up its offensive attack in the third, scoring nine runs. They added six in the fourth.

Head coach DeAnna Nash said there were many contributors in the game, including Mariah Meyerholz and Mariah Moulton with four hits apiece.

Whitney McClellan was 2-for-2 and had two walks, and Natalie Stearns was 3-for-3. Janelle King and Babe Nash had multiple hits, and Rheanna Cartner, Brian



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Grant Union Prospector Janelle King reaches first base in a game earlier this season, with assistant coach Les DeHaven standing nearby.

na Zweggardt, Sydney Stearns and Ravyn Walker each had a hit.

Mariah Moulton started the pitching in the second game. Natalie Stearns relieved her in the third, and Moulton closed out the game in the seventh inning.

"After getting down 9-4, we had a big fifth inning with 11 runs," Nash said.

Offensively, Walker had four hits, and Sydney Stearns and Mariah Meyerholz had three each. Moulton had two hits, and Babe Nash was walked five times.

Having Natalie Stearns and Moulton in the circle was somewhat of a departure for the varsity team. Coach Nash noted that both pitched some in junior varsity.

"Natalie has pitched a little varsity and Mariah was a rookie yesterday," Nash said, lauding their contributions.

"All the girls have done anything and everything they have been asked to do this year with confidence and the trust of their teammates," Nash said. "They really gutted out these wins, and all 16 athletes contributed to our success – they believed in each other and never got down."

The Lady Pros faced Elgin earlier in the season, splitting wins at home.

"They are similar to us and consistently in the playoffs," she said. "We hope to be at full strength for Wednesday's game but we believe that all our athletes are ready to contribute."

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