



Pros end season in Stayton

Rams' batting barrage too much for GU

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

STAYTON – The Prospector baseball team came ready for battle, but fell in the first-round state playoff game 16-3 to the Regis Rams, ending Grant Union's season.

The Prospectors had a good start in the game, played last Wednesday in Stayton, and held the lead through the fourth with Garrett McConnell as starting pitcher.

Then the Rams loaded the bases

and unleashed their bats.

"They're a very good team," Grant Union head coach Brian Delaney said of the Rams. "They're definitely more complete than us – they're loaded with seniors and have a lot of experience, and they hit the ball extremely well."

Despite the loss, Delaney was pleased with his players.

"I feel that we ended our season on a positive note," he said. "We led the game through four, and our boys were more prepared and ready for that

game than Regis was. We played great small ball and team baseball. Our defense was solid, and Garrett threw a great game."

McConnell, on the mound for four and a half innings, threw 76 pitches and 35 strikes and gave up four hits and five runs.

Justin Gravley stepped in for the fifth and sixth inning, throwing 39-18, and Zach Dieter finished the sixth, 20-11.

Regis pitcher Blake Minten threw 80-59 over six innings, giving up five

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The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Grant Union first baseman Billy Copenhaver (20) makes the grab on a play against Baker with Zack Dieter (13) backing up. This was the Prospectors' last home game before heading to the state playoffs.



PETTIT FLIES TO STRONG FINISH AT STATE

Eighth-grader plans to continue in the sport

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

MONUMENT – Sophia Pettit, a Monument School eighth-grader, has reached championship status in Oregon track and field.

She was first in two of her events at Saturday's Middle School Statewide Championships in La Pine. The meet drew athletes from 51 schools, including smaller schools such as Mitchell and Crane, and larger schools such as Newport and Scappoose.

She finished in first place in long jump at 15-10.50 and the 100-meter dash, where she logged a time of 12:61 after a 12:36 preliminary run.

She also placed third in the 200 with a new personal best of 27:00 in the preliminaries, and a 27:41 finish in the finals, and she placed 10th in the high jump, clearing the bar at 4-0.00.

"I enjoyed how well I performed and the sportsmanship of everyone there," she said.

Pettit has been working at track since fifth grade, but said she had her "real start" in sixth grade.

"When I started, I had no idea that I could be competitive in those events – you just have to go out there and try it," she said. "My dad has helped me a lot with everything."

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Contributed photos

Sophia Pettit, a Monument eighth-grader, takes the top of the podium for her first-place finish in the 100-meter dash at the Statewide Middle School Championships last Saturday. Top photo: Pettit competes at the May 30 middle school championships in La Pine.



Contributed photo
Denali Twehues races around the barrel at the Cinnabar Mountain Playdays Rodeo in Mt. Vernon. She finished second in the Intermediate Division on May 31.

Youth ride fast in Playdays rodeo

Blue Mountain Eagle

MT. VERNON – Rodeo youth competed in this year's first Cinnabar Mountain Playdays rodeo of the season last Sunday.

There were 27 riders competing at Burton Arena in Mt. Vernon. Events on the schedule included barrel racing, pole bending, goat tying, dummy roping, keyhole, flag race and figure 8.

The next Playdays rodeo will be at 10 a.m. Sunday,

June 14, at the arena. Registration opens at 9 a.m.

Results:

Leadline division

1st - Caja Jo Timko
2nd - Gus Rowell
3rd - Josie Kimball

Peewee Division

1st Cooper Holly
2nd Anna Jacobs
3rd Tatyn Harper

Junior Division

1st Wyatt Nolan
2nd Garrett Nolan
3rd Bailey McCracken

Intermediate Division

1st Paige Pentzer
2nd Denali Twehues
3rd Sam McCracken

Runners 'on mark' for Gold Rush Run

Historic sites part of 5K run and walk

Blue Mountain Eagle

CANYON CITY – All ages can kick off '62 Days with this year's Gold Rush Run and Walk in Canyon City at 7 a.m. Saturday, June 6.

The 5K course is a scenic loop that begins and ends in front of Sels Brewery in Canyon City. It passes such historic sites as Humbolt Diggings, Hog Point and Rebel Hill.

The event, sponsored by The Strawberry Striders and Whiskey Gulch Gang, attracts runners and walkers of all ages and speeds.

The course record of 17 minutes, 59 seconds was set in 2013 by Brent Labhart of Mt. Vernon. The event is short enough for speedsters, post-season track athletes, younger runners and those who are

looking for a moderately challenging running event. Plenty of walkers join the event each year, covering the course in about 45 minutes.

The overall men's and women's winners in two age divisions, 39 and under and 40 and over, will receive '62 Days commemorative awards. The top finisher in each 10-year age division will receive ribbons. All children age 12 and under will receive medals.

Those who preregister pay a reduced entry fee and will receive a heavyweight cotton T-shirt. Race-day entries will have a choice of logo socks, duffel bags, and past years' T-shirts.

Registration forms are available at the Grant County Chamber of Commerce, 301 W. Main St., John Day. Pre-registration is \$15. Registration from 6:15 to 6:45 a.m. on race day costs \$17, and will be available in front of Sels.

– Contributed by Hugh Snook



Eagle file photo

Dogs enjoy trotting along with their owners during the 2014 Gold Rush Run in Canyon City. This year's run, set for 7 a.m. Saturday, June 6, launches a day full of activities at the annual '62 Days Celebration.

CYCLING DUO TREK U.S.



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Thomas Hyatt, left, and Joseph Shearer toured through Grant County while on a 4,134-mile tandem cycle ride across America to raise awareness of organizations doing research and helping blind or visually impaired people. Hyatt has been blind from retinitis pigmentosa, a progressive genetic eye disease, for more than 26 years. The friends started in Florence and will end in Virginia, with the trip expected to take more than 100 days. Shearer's wife, Susan, is driving along in a support vehicle. Both riders said they've been impressed with the friendly people they've met on their tour, including those in Dayville who allowed them to stay the night at a community church. For more information about BlindRide 2015 go online to www.crazyguyonabike.com/BlindRide2015 and click on the links for the Prineville, Dayville and Prairie City legs of the tour.



Contributed photo

The Grant County ASA Wildfire softball team poses with the Eagle at the Mother's Day weekend tournament in Richland, Wash. The team placed second in the silver bracket.

Softball suds raise gear funds

Team finishes 2nd in Richland

Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY – The Grant County Amateur Softball Association Wildfire team is holding a car wash at Les Schwab Tire from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday. Iron Triangle sponsored

the teams' uniforms for the season, and the fundraiser is to help pay for other needed equipment.

The team placed second in the silver bracket at the Mother's Day weekend tournament in Richland, Wash.

Doug's Motor Vehicle Repair and Towing

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