

WEDNESDAY
July 22, 2015



OHHH, SO CLOSE!

Grant County Wildfire comes up short in state championship game

Blue Mountain Eagle

In a heartbreaking loss with extra innings during the Oregon Little League Junior Softball State Championship game the Grant County softball team ended their season second in state.

The Grant County Wildfire softball team lost, 6 - 5, to Parkside/Beaumont of Portland July 14 in Pilot Rock in 9 innings.

The first four innings were scoreless for both teams and back-and-forth from the fourth inning on. At the top of the fourth inning, Grant County got on the board first with one run scored and Portland answered during the bottom with two runs. In the fifth inning Grant County scored three runs and held Portland to no hits in the fifth inning, ending the inning 4-2. During the sixth inning Grant County was unable to score leaving two girls on base and Portland came out with three hits and three runs.

At the top of the seventh inning with two outs and Grant County Wildfire down 5 - 4, Taylor Allen hit a single to centerfield that got under the centerfielder's glove, allowing the tying run to score from second base and take them into the bottom of the seventh. Grant County Wildfire was able to hold Parkside/Beaumont to no runs and go into extra innings.



Hailie Wright (10) is welcomed back at home plate by her team after hitting a home run during the Tillamook game. Grant County Wildfire won, 12-2.



Photos by Tanni Wenger Photography Studio

Shaine Madden warming up between innings during the championship game against Parkside/Beaumont. Grant County Wildfire lost in extra innings, 6-5.

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Contributed photo

Anna Jacobs reaches out to throw the flag in the bucket at the June 28 Cinnabar Mountain Playdays Rodeo as her mom Jenny looks on.

Rounding up fun at Cinnabar Playdays

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

Aug. 2, at the Grant County Fairgrounds in John Day.

Top three results:

MT. VERNON – Cinnabar Mountain Playdays cowboys and cowgirls endured hot temperatures for their June 28 rodeo.

The competition held at Burton Arena in Mt. Vernon drew 19 participants for events which included barrel racing, pole bending, goat tying, key-hole and dummy roping.

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

Open leadline
Josie Kimball, 1st
Kara Hansen, 2nd
Caja Jo Timko, 3rd
Peewee – 6 and under
Tatyn Harper, 1st
Cooper Holly, 2nd
Kodee Kimball, 3rd
Junior – 7-9
Bailey McCracken, 1st
Wyatt Nolan, 2nd
Riley Gregg, 3rd
Intermediate – 10-14
Paige Pentzer, 1st
Denali Twehues, 2nd
Sam McCracken, 3rd



Contributed photo/Gloria Strafford

The Grant County Special Olympics team gathers near the Summer Games torch in Newberg at the July 11-12 event.

Special Olympians compete with heart at Summer Games

Team effort and fun highlight state event

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

NEWBERG – After several weeks of training, the Grant County Special Olympics team qualified for the Summer State Games. The Grant County team of nine athletes came home with a few medals and a bright outlook. The games, held in Newberg, drew 1,600 athletes and 2,000 volunteers.

Coaching the Grant County team were Tony and Sharon Busch.

"I thought it went pretty well," Tony said. "Everybody seemed to put out a good effort in their events – I think they had fun."

Bill Pauley and Caleb Madsen each brought home a gold medal.

"I enjoyed being with all my teammates and being able to compete," said Pauley, a Seneca resident. "I'm grateful to all the 2,000 volunteers, and so grateful to all my coaches."

Besides the competition, the athletes also took in a dance Saturday night. Tony said the Summer Games event was fun, but his favorite part of the process is coaching the athletes in practice.

"I like helping them improve," he said.

Summer Games results

Bill Pauley: 1st, 400 meter walk; 3rd, 100-meter run
Caleb Madsen: 1st, 400-meter dash; 5th, 200-meter run
Charley Fronapel: 2nd, pentathlon
Relay team 4x100: 3rd, Bill Pauley, Josiah Hoeffner, Caleb Madsen, Charley Fronapel
Relay team 4x100: 7th, Elizabeth, Brian, Jay Colson, Crystal Wimberley
Crystal Wimberley: 2nd, shot put
Jay Colson: 4th, shot put; 8th, 400-meter walk
Josiah Hoeffner: 3rd, softball throw; 7th, 100-meter run
Katie Latham: 7th, 400-meter walk; 7th, 100-meter walk
Elizabeth Swarhout: 7th in softball throw; 7th, 100-meter run
Brian McKrola: 6th, 100-meter run; 7th, shot put



The Grant County Wildfire team celebrate with their second place in state medals after the championship game against Parkside/Beaumont in Pilot Rock. The team includes Taylor Allen, Baylee Metcalf, Madi McKrola, Hailie Wright, Kaylee Wright, Brianna Zwegardt, Macy Strong, Tiler Voigt, Shaine Madden, Baylee Combs, Jordyn Young, Savannah Randleas, Marissa Smith and coaches Zach Williams, Mike Strong, Tammy Clark and Lance Zwegardt (not in picture).



Taylor Allen (4) gets an out at first base from a throw pitcher by Shaine Madden during the Tillamook game.

Sea Dragons swim to second

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

BURNS – The John Day Sea Dragons swim team made strides at last weekend, placing second at the Burns Swim Meet. There were 44 John Day team members competing at the meet, many finishing well, which moved the team up to their highest placement this season.

"Our kids are doing really well," said head coach Crista Waldner. "A lot of them are improving their times, and we had a lot of swimmers winning their heats."

The team hosts the District Swim Invitational in John Day this weekend, Friday through Sunday.

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The John Day Sea Dragons swim team place second at the Burns Swim Meet last weekend.

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Your photos will be published in this year's **EAGLE HUNTING JOURNAL**
Please have them to the Eagle by August 7th

