



Contributed photo

Burnt River's Shelby Swindlehurst spikes the ball to Ukiah/Long Creek with her teammate Valeria Orsoni at the ready.

Lady Bulls rope in first win of season

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

UNITY – The Burnt River Lady Bulls claimed their first win of the season at their home court, defeating Ukiah/Long Creek.

Ukiah/Long Creek, a junior varsity team coached by Reagan Enriquez, gave the varsity Bulls a run for their money in the final set, but the Bulls pushed forward for the win in three sets 25-14, 25-15 and 25-20.

Lady Bulls coach Tonia Humbert said her team has been practicing hard.

"It really showed," she said. "They are really starting to gel as a group."

Burnt River put down 15

kills for the day.

Senior Selina Lienhard led the team in hitting with 5 kills, and senior Shelby Swindlehurst scored a total of 21 points with 12 serving aces.

"This is a really great group of girls," Humbert said. "They are dedicated to working hard and improving every day. There are a lot of days when I have to kick them out of the gym at the end of practice because they want to keep going."

Burnt River will meet up with Dayville/Monument on Friday at 4 p.m. at the Dayville court.

Ukiah/Long Creek faces Jordan Valley at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 29, in Burnt River.

Prep round up: GC teams hit road

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

Almost all of Grant County's sports teams traveled for competition last week. Here's a round up of events on the road.

GRANT UNION

Football

GU 16 – Stanfield 33

"Stanfield is a playoff-caliber team," said coach Jason Miller. "We played tough defensively for the first two quarters, but we made too many mistakes on offense – two fumbles and two interceptions gave them a short field."

Garrett McConnell had 8 rushes for 55 yards and 1 touchdown.

Hayden Young rushed for 41 yards on 11 carries.

Wade Reimers was 4/13 passing with 1 touchdown.

"Our execution on offense and toughness on defense will continue to be our areas of emphasis," the coach said.

Grant Union hosts Pilot Rock/Nixyaawii at 7 p.m. Friday at Three Flags Field for homecoming.

Volleyball

The 13-0 Prospector volleyball team showed, once again, they have the magic touch.

In Elgin Thursday, Grant Union swept 3-0 with scores of 25-12, 25-16 and 25-10, however, coach Shae Speth said the overall play needs improvement, especially on serve and serve-receive.

"We continue to work on those most important aspects of the game going forward," she said.

Heather Mosley had a successful day offensively, with 12 kills and 0 errors on 20 swings.

The Prospectors traveled to the Baker Tournament Friday where they won the championship title.

In pool play, they toppled Weston-McEwen, 25-12; La

Grande, 25-10; and Baker junior varsity, 25-13.

In bracket play, they rolled on to take the win, beating Enterprise, 25-6, 25-18; Weiser 26-24, 25-11; and La Grande 25-12, 25-15.

"With the exception of a lapse at the start of our match against Weiser (where we were down 10-20 before coming back to win), the team was very focused on winning the tournament," Speth said. "A big difference in this year's team is that we have a bit of a killer instinct, where we don't let up and let another team come back on us – we get a lead and tend to extend it."

Grant Union will hold their homecoming match against Burns at 6 p.m. Thursday, following junior varsity games, which start at 4 p.m.

"Burns is always tough and this year is no exception," Speth said. "They are defending state champions, and for us to reach our goals, we have to go through them. We feel we have to play our best to beat Burns, but this year we feel that they need to play their best to beat us as well. Burns has lost a couple matches, but to very good teams."

Cross country

Cross country coach Sonna Smith said the boys varsity team made improvements at last Friday's Enterprise Invitational. Tanner Elliott placed 19th, Sam Bentz 42nd and Trejan Speth 54 out of 77 runners. The cross country varsity boys will travel to Saturday's Outlaw Invite in Sisters.

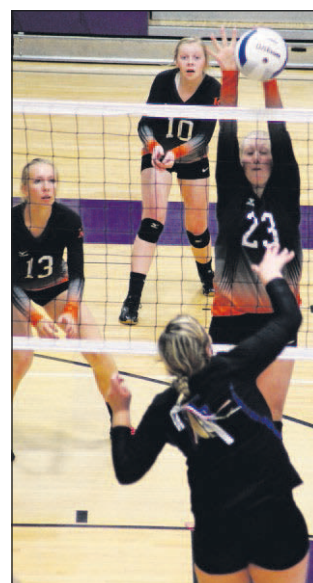
DAYVILLE/MONUMENT

Football

Dayville/Monument 14
Joseph 56

Dayville/Monument's football team was on the road to Baker last Saturday to face the Joseph Eagles. The teams ended the game with their halftime score, the Tigers losing 56-14.

Coach Nathaniel Ashley said



Contributed/Nancy Hitz

Prairie City Panther Cassie Hire (23) blocks against Harper/Huntington with her teammates Brianna Zweygardt (13) and Sarah Ennis (10) in the action at the Old Oregon/High Desert Tournament in Baker City last weekend.

they started off slow, but started "playing a little bit better and made a few adjustments."

He said, "We had some good things that we did, and we have some things to work on. We need to shore up our tackling, learn from this one and get ready for this week."

Dakota Emerson and Garret Warner each scored a touchdown with Tanner Walczyk adding a two-point conversion.

The Tigers host Prairie City/Burnt River at 1 p.m. Friday at the Dayville field.

Volleyball

The Dayville/Monument Lady Tigers were 2-2 last week, sweeping Nixyaawii 28-26, 25-19, 25-17, on Sept. 15 and losing to Crane 0-3 on Sept. 17.

At the Old Oregon/High Desert Tournament in Baker last Saturday they beat Prairie City 25-14, 26-24 and fell to Crane 20-25, 13-25.

"The games went pretty well for our girls," said coach Tiffnie Schmadeka. "They had some close sets with Nixyaawii and Prairie City. It was good to get a win over Prairie City since we will be facing them for league play this Friday."

She added the team was competitive against Crane, but were battling some illness.

"We're excited to play them when we're 100 percent healthy," she said. "The games gave us good skills to focus on this week in practice."

Friday, the Lady Tigers host Burnt River at 4 p.m. and Prairie

City at 6 p.m., and travel to the Crane Tournament Saturday.

MONUMENT

Cross country

Maya Thomas placed 19th out of 47 at last Friday's Enterprise Invitational and Dinorha Vidrio Landin placed 45th.

"It's an improvement," said coach Chuck Thomas. "They both had a really good meet, and the weather was good."

Seventh-grader Mark Thomas had a first-place finish among fifth- through eighth-grade middle school runners, with boys and girls combining for the race – 21 boys and 22 girls.

The team journeys to Portland Saturday for the Nike Meet at Portland Meadows, an old horse track.

PRAIRIE CITY

Football

Prairie City 12
North Lake 64

Last Friday, Prairie City/Burnt River faced a big and fast North Lake team – the Cowboys' roster also included eight seniors.

"Ethan Camarena had a couple good runs that resulted in touchdowns," said Panther/Bulls coach Darrel McKrola. "We moved personnel around. We're making additional changes this week. Our offensive line is struggling. Defensively, we have a lot of work to do, too. We need to work on defensive coverage and outside containment."

Friday, the Panther/Bulls will face the Dayville/Monument Tigers at 1 p.m. in Dayville for what will be both teams' first league matchup.

Volleyball

Prairie City's volleyball team came away with a 3-1 victory at North Lake (25-18, 23-25, 25-23, 25-22).

"The team played together the best I have seen yet," said coach Louanne Zweygardt.

Zweygardt highlighted Sarah Ennis, who served four aces in a row to win the fourth set and "had her best passing game thus far, and no net calls, also Cassie Hire had stiff competition at the net going up against a much taller middle blocker who could also jump. Cassie stuff blocked her once, got touches on several others and forced her to hit the ball out or lob it to our passers in the back row. Brianna Zweygardt contributed very well with 6 aces and 9 kills, and 26 assists."

At the Old Oregon/High Desert Tournament in Baker last Saturday, the Panthers finished second in their pool. Prairie City fell to Monument/Dayville in the opening of bracket play, 14-25, 26-24.

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the corner's
HOT SHOT
OF THE WEEK

MARLAYNA WOODBURY

School: Prairie City
Grade: 12
Parents: Mark & Melissa Woodbury
Sport: Volleyball

What I like best about my sport: "I always have fun playing with the team."

Coach's Comment: "Marlayna has a positive attitude and influence on the team. She is always willing to work hard at practice and sets a good example for the whole team."

– Coach Louanne Zweygardt

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A special thank you to Gordon and Julie Larson at Berry Creek Ranch for trying so hard to save my mare from wildfires. Also, thank you to Bill Thomas for burying her.

"Lucy" was a kind and gentle spirit. I'm so sorry I wasn't there to help you.

Someday we will meet again inside Heaven's gate.
Wait for me.

Linda Dickenson

Steve and I were newlyweds when we moved to Canyon City more than 43 years ago. In 1972, we purchased our first home, just beside beautiful Canyon Creek. We lived in that home for the next 42 years. During those years, our sons Dean and Matthew were born. They grew up playing in the creek, and then attending local schools until graduating from Grant Union High School. Like many of our neighbors, we lost the home we loved on August 14, 2015, when it burned to the ground in the Canyon Creek Complex Fire. Although everything we had is gone, wedding presents, baby pictures, heirloom jewelry, antique furniture handed down from our grandparents, we have been nurtured and sustained by all that remains: true friends, and the love and amazing support of this, our community. The dedication and heroism of our firefighters, as they fought to protect our town and their own, has been far beyond the call of duty. The mere words thank you can never convey the depth of our gratitude, but please know that we do thank each and every one of you.

Steve and Joan Flopper

Our heartfelt thanks to the fire fighters, marvelous volunteers, family, church family, community relief program and friends, as well as the Christian Aid Ministries for supplying shelter, food, clothing, basic needs, tools and financial aid as we recover from the loss of our home. Frankly there are just no words to express our gratitude.

Onward & upward,

Gene & Jeanne Freshour

Prairie Springs Fish Farm, Boyd Britton Welding & Blue Mountain Eagle
Best Fishing Photo Contest WINNERS!

Week 10: **Kade Blood**

Week 11: **Brandon Horell**

Week 12: **Sam Stout**

Congratulations to our GRAND PRIZE winner, Kade Blood!