

## Football

Friday, Oct. 2

Grant Union vs. Enterprise in John Day 7 p.m.

Prairie City/  
Burnt River  
vs. Crane in  
Prairie City,  
7 p.m.Dayville/Monument @  
Jordan Valley in Jordan  
Valley, 4 p.m.

## Volleyball

Wednesday,  
Sept. 29Prairie City  
vs. Grant  
Union JV in  
Prairie City,  
4:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 1

Grant Union @ Cove  
in Cove, 5 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 2

Day/Mon @ Jordan Valley  
in Jordan Valley, 1 p.m.Burnt River  
vs. Crane in  
Prairie City,  
4 p.m.Prairie City  
vs. Crane in Prairie City,  
6 p.m.

## Cross Country

Friday, Oct. 2

Grant Union @ Gutbuster  
at Machi,  
TBAMonument  
@ Oxford  
Classic in  
Bend, TBA

Maya Thomas

Monument  
runners put  
best foot  
forwardMaya Thomas  
earns 8th-place  
finish in PortlandBy Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

PORTLAND – Monument's cross country team was small among the contingency of runners at last Saturday's Nike Portland XC Meet but had a good showing.

Maya Thomas and Dinorha Vidrio Landin ran one of the junior varsity races with Maya finishing eighth out of 178 girls.

Middle school runner Mark Thomas finished 26th out of 322 boys.

Head coach Chuck Thomas said Mark was close to his goal of finishing 25th.

"They had a good meet, an they had a lot of fun," the coach said.

Grant Union's team stayed home for a time trial on their home course.

"It is a flat, fast course and should make for good times at our home meet," said Grant Union head coach Sonna Smith.



## Prospectors blast Rockets

Grant Union's homecoming game a 'smashing' success

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY – The Grant Union Prospectors entered their homecoming football game against the Pilot Rock/Nixyaawii Rockets ready to win, their confidence backed up with hard work.

The success of a 74-22 win was especially sweet after losing their previous two games. The team is 2-2 on the season in nonleague play.

"We worked on execution all week, working fast, working on tempo," said head coach Jason Miller. "The offensive line played well and the defensive backs – creating turnovers was huge for us."

The Prospectors made quick work of

getting points on the board in the first quarter.

After shutting down Pilot Rocks' first drive for the goal down, Prospector Garrett McConnell found a 64-yard path for the team's first touchdown of the night.

McConnell's running legs were quick throughout, with some spectacular catches from quarterback Wade Reimers, scoring five touchdowns in the game.

A Pilot Rock fumble recovered by Grant Union's Eli Humbird gave the home team another opportunity to score with Hayden Young rushing the 20 yards to the end zone.

Prospector Roen Langum grabbed

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The Eagle/Angel Carpenter  
Grant Union Prospector Antonio Dancer (55) brings down Pilot Rock's Chris Weinke, with Prospector teammates Clayton Vaughan (52) and Andrew Copenhaver (61) in the action.

YOUTH RODEO ATHLETES  
ROPE IN FUN, AWARDSCompetitors  
increase skills  
over seasonBy Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY – The Cinnabar Mountain Playdays youth rodeo series wrapped up last weekend with the final event held at the Grant County Fairgrounds.

"The whole thing was fun," said 11-year-old Sam McCracken of John Day.

He and his sister Bailey, 9, have spent time at home practicing their events for the Playdays which have been held once a month since May, mainly at the Burton Arena in Mt. Vernon. Sam competes with his horse Macy in the rodeo events and said his horse likes barrel racing, but dummy roping is his personal favorite.

Bailey said she enjoys barrel racing with her horse, Spur.

"Today he was best at the poles," she said of her horse.

She, and Spur, earned a blue ribbon in pole bending last Saturday.

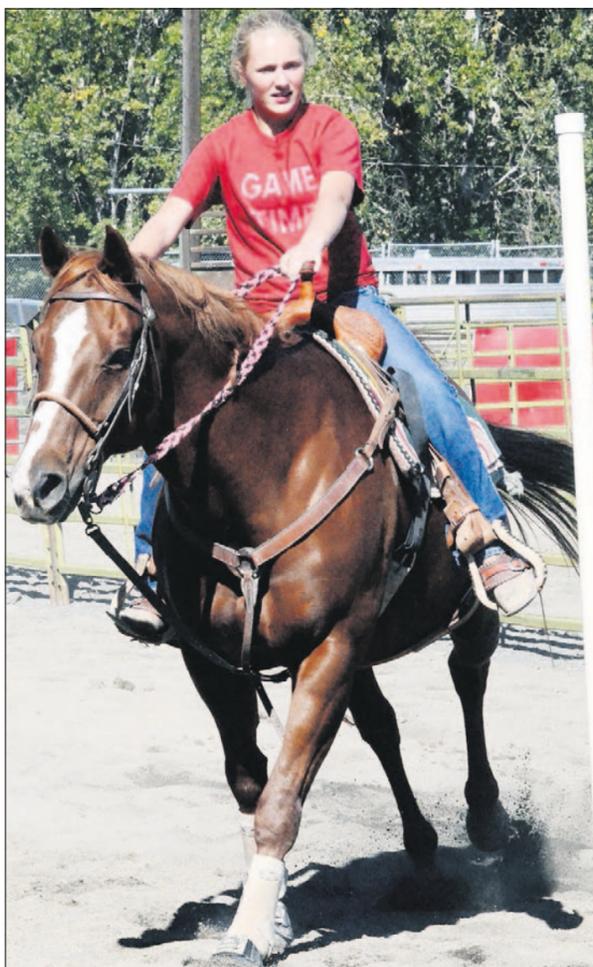
Denali Twehues of Dayville also loves barrel racing.

"I travel up to my grandparents' house to practice as much as possible," said the Monument School eighth-grader.

She earned several blue ribbons at the Playdays rodeo, riding her horse Lewie.

Twehues said the Playdays rodeos are a lot of fun.

"It's a good opportunity



Eagle photos/Angel Carpenter  
Denali Twehues of Dayville competes at last weekend's Cinnabar Mountain Playdays rodeo, moving through the pole bending course.

to get experience and there's a lot of competition," she said. "My dream is to go to the NFR. I'd like to get another horse and move up and progress to my big dream."

Didgette McCracken,

who serves on the Cinnabar Playdays committee, said she was glad they were able to reschedule the event.

The final rodeo was originally scheduled for Aug.

22-23, but due to the recent fires was postponed.

"I think we were fortunate to be able to reschedule it," she said.

She expressed appreciation for the many volunteers

who help run the youth rodeos.

"If it wasn't for them, we wouldn't be able to do this for the kids," she said.

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Five-year-old Kara Hansen makes a perfect shot in the dummy roping event.



Aaliyah Marciel of Canyon City get the job done in the goat tying event at last Saturday's round of the Cinnabar Mountain Playdays rodeo held at the Grant County Fairgrounds in John Day.

## Panther/Bulls rumble in Dayville

Prairie City/Burnt  
River take first  
win of seasonBy Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

DAYVILLE – Dayville/Monument and Prairie City/Burnt River had a rough and tumble game last Friday to start league play on Dayville's Tiger turf.

The Panther/Bulls rolled out their first win of the season, 48-24.

The three-hour game was marked with penalties and a few injuries as the two teams battled it out in the afternoon sun.

"We did good, but could've done better early on," said Panther/Bull head coach Darrel McKrola.

He said the Tigers are more comparable in size than other teams they've faced this year, which also had bigger lines.

Tiger head coach Nathaniel Ashley said his team has some younger players with less experience who are learning as the season progresses alongside their more seasoned teammates.

Friday's game was the league opener for both teams.



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter  
Dayville/Monument's Gabe Walker (10) gains yards for the Tigers with a handoff in Friday's game.

Prairie City/Burnt River quarterback Wyatt Williams was the first to get on the scoreboard for the Panther/Bulls, rushing in a touchdown, and Matt Siddoway followed up with the two-point conversion.

The Tigers didn't score in the first quarter, but prevented the Panther/Bulls from scoring again in the quarter.

Williams again had a quarterback keeper in the second quarter and Dayville/Monument's Dakota Emerson fired back to score on the Tigers' next possession with Garrett Warner breaking a tackle for the conversion points.

Panther/Bull Ethan Camarena had the ball in the red zone, but on the fourth down, Williams went down with an injury and was carried off the field. He was later transported to Blue Mountain Hospital in a personal vehicle.

The Tigers took over on downs, but were stopped within 30 yards of goal.

Dayville/Monument recovered a Prairie City fumble, and Prairie City also recovered a fumble.

With Panther/Bull Tyler Belveal in as quarterback, the team scored with conversion points taking their lead to 20-8.

Camarena scored for Prairie City with 6 minutes left in the third.

Dayville/Monument's Tanner Walczyk was sidelined with an injury, but later in the drive Tiger quarterback Hayden Schafer connected with Warner for a touchdown and the two-point conversion was good.

Prairie City/Burnt River still held the lead 26-16.

Warner joined Walczyk, side-

lined with an injury.

Camarena intercepted to put the ball back in the Panthers' hands and Belveal scored with Siddoway getting the two-point conversion, bringing Prairie City/Burnt River's lead to 34-16 to end the quarter.

Prairie City's Belveal picked off Schafer's pass early in the fourth and on the next play connected with Camarena who ran it 65 yards to score. Johnathon Lawrence brought in the two-point conversion.

Siddoway added another touchdown on the Panther/Bulls' next possession.

Dayville/Monument's Gabe Walker made some good catches and pushed forward breaking up tackles.

Emerson caught a long pass to score the final touchdown of the game, Schafer brought in two more points with a quarterback keeper.

McKrola said it was frustrating to see players getting injured.

"We had boys injured on both sides," he said. "I don't like to see the kids get hurt – doesn't matter what side."

He said they've switched up their offense a little bit which helped win the game.

"We'll keep working with that," he said. "We had younger boys in today – we'll keep working at it."