

# Runners make strides in records

Team competes at Burns-Idlewild Meet Saturday

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

MILTON-FREEWATER – Grant Union cross country coach Sonna Smith said her boys varsity team is right on track.

The group took on competition at McLoughlin High School last Friday in Milton-Freewater.

“The course has a 600-me-

ter hill at 2.5 kilometers that was aptly named ‘Gut Buster hill,’” she said.

Out of 40 boys varsity racers, Tanner Elliott placed 10th with 19:53; Sam Bentz, 18, 21:21; Bo Olson, 26, 22:21.

“For all of the athletes to get their season’s best time on the course shows that our training is right on track and they are making great improvements both physically and mentally in their racing,” Smith said.

The team travels to the Burns-Idlewild Meet on Saturday to compete at Devine Ridge Summit near Burns.



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter  
**Cassie Robertson of Prineville puts the ball during last weekend's Rally for the Cure golf scramble.**



Contributed photo  
**Ladies at the Rally for the Cure prepare to release balloons with special messages at the John Day Golf Club.**

## GOLF

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Her team dressed up in shorts with matching fuchsia leggings with the word “love” written on them, and wore matching T-shirts with the phrase, “Family gives me strength, Faith gives me hope.”

Ward said nine teams competed in the scramble last Saturday, and seven co-ed teams participated Sunday.

She noted the men enjoy competing, too, and some wear pink shirts.

The Sunday scramble was a 50-50 contest, and the winners donated their winnings back to the Rally.

“It was another opportunity to fight against cancer,” she said. “We always have a fabulous, crazy, fun time.”

A dessert auction was also held, and all funds raised are given to the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

The Donna Edmundson Memorial Award and a pink putter donated by the Foundation was given to Farrell for being the ninth person to sign up.

Farrell said Edmundson, a former Prairie City resident, lost her battle to cancer and since then Edmundson’s daughters and other family members honor her memory with the Rally for the Cure prize.

Janie Cole, who won closest to the pin, was awarded a golf bag. Other results were unavailable at press time.

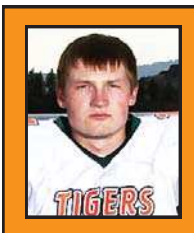
**Teaming up at the Rally for the Cure are Virginia Miller, Kathleen Lee and Kim Ward, all of Mt. Vernon, and Ward’s mom Gail Burton of Dallas.**

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**DAKOTA EMERSON**

School: Monument  
Grade: 12  
Parents: Kristi Emerson and Dan Emerson

Sport: Football

**What I like best about my sport:** “I enjoy football for the physical aspect of the game. As a running back, I have to make quick decisions. I enjoy playing with my teammates.”

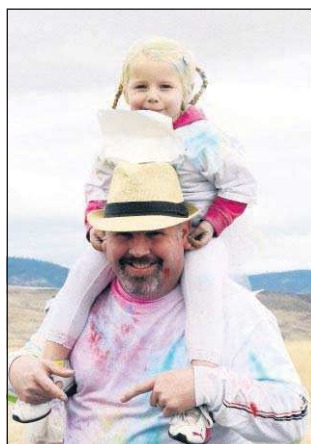
**Coach’s Comment:** “He is a senior who is stepping into a leadership role for the team, and he is a great competitor who works hard every practice and game.”

– Coach Nathaniel Ashley



Proud sponsor of Grant County athletes

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**Rob Raschio of John Day gives his daughter Annabelle Rose, 3, a lift during the event.**



Photos by The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

**Above photo: Fun run participant Brian McKrola of John Day is plastered with pink as he passes one of the color stations run by Byron Grant and Megan Grant of Portland and Cody Bowden (behind McKrola) of John Day. A mother and her child are also blasted with the nontoxic powder.**

**Left photo: Sara Burns, left, of Burns and Sena Raschio of John Day show plenty of spirit during last Saturday's Color Me Free Fun Run.**

## RUN

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Heart of Grant County ex-

ecutive director Shelly Whale said the event is “all in honor of kicking off Domestic Violence Awareness Month.”

There were around 100 fun run participants, with 25 vol-

unteers helping with registration and running the six color stations – and there was even more colored paint powder to go around this year.

Each walker/runner also received a bag of paint powder to throw at their friends along the way.

Outreach/advocate Tammy Larkin said the fun run is not a fundraiser, but an outreach event.

“Our main priority is to let the community know who we are and what we do, which is bring awareness to domestic violence and to promote wellness and healthy lifestyles,” she said.

“That’s the most important message – we’re there for anybody who needs help,” Whale said.

For more information about Heart of Grant County, call 541-575-4335, email heartgc@ortelco.net or visit their Facebook page.

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