

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Football

Thursday, Oct. 22

Grant Union vs. Pendleton JV in John Day, 6 p.m.



Friday, Oct. 23

Dayville/Monument @ Crane in Crane, 1 p.m.

Prairie City vs. Harper/Huntington in Prairie City, 7 p.m.

Grant Union Old Man Football in John Day, taco feed 5 p.m., game 7 p.m.

Volleyball

Wednesday, Oct. 21



Dayville/Monument @ Grant Union junior varsity in John Day, 5 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 24

Grant Union @ Wapiti District Tournament in La Grande at EOU, 9 a.m.



Day/Mon, Prairie City @ 1A High Desert League District Championship in John Day, 9 a.m.

Cross Country

Saturday, Oct. 24

Grant Union, Monument at 3A/2A/1A District 5 Championships in Pendleton, 1 p.m.



GU hosts Run the River

Monument takes on Kyle Burnside Wildhorse Meet

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

MT. VERNON – Last Friday was the perfect day for a Grant County cross country meet.

Grant Union hosted the Run the River Meet last Friday afternoon at Clyde Holliday State Park in Mt. Vernon.

Runners had a setting of bright fall colors and blue skies with the running path beside the John Day River.

John Day competed with Burns, and another invited team was unable to attend.

Top three boys varsity finishers were Daniel Letham, Burns, 1, 17:53.19; Emmet Klus, Burns, 2, 19:14.87 (PR); and Tanner Elliott, Grant Union, 3, 19:33.09 (PR).

Other Grant Union boys: Sam Bentz, 6, 21:26.11; Bo Olson, 7, 21:54.40 (PR); and Trejan Speth, 10, 23:32.73.

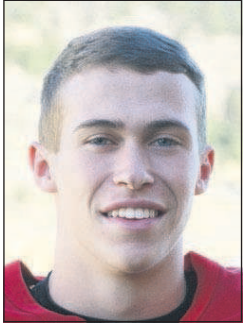
See RUN, Page B10



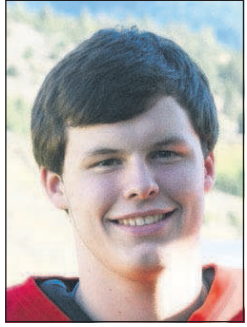
Andrew Copenhaver



Antonio Dancer



Garrett McConnell



Clayton Vaughan



Wyatt Weaver



Hayden Young

Grant Union builds on experience

Team is hopeful for chance at playoffs

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY – The Grant Union Prospector football team is break-

ing out a better record this season, building on last year's lessons.

"Play fast, play hard" is a chant the fans will often hear the team shout during the games – the theme has carried them to a 4-3 overall record, 2-1 in league.

"Our goals for this season are to continue to improve and make

the playoffs," said head coach Jason Miller.

Competition in the 2A class Wapiti League includes: Imbler, Union/Cove, Enterprise and Burns.

Grant Union soundly defeated Union/Cove and Enterprise, but had a let down in their contest

with Burns.

The Prospectors will host Imbler for their final league game on Friday, Oct. 30, after this week's nonleague matchup against Pendleton junior varsity 6 p.m. Thursday at Grant Union.

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ON THE HUNT

Kimberly man takes on worldwide hunts, year-round

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle



Contributed photo

Jerry Russell with a 39-inch Dall ram taken in the Brooks Range of the Arctic National Wildlife Preserve in Northern Alaska.

KIMBERLY – For Kimberly resident Jerry Russell, hunting is a way of life.

He's called Grant County home for over 37 years, but his original stomping grounds are in northern Michigan.

"People in that neck of the woods refer to it as Jackpine Savages," he said, adding his father and grandfather taught him to hunt and fish. "All my life, I was raised that way – we didn't buy meat out of the store."

Hunting is a year-round activity, taking Russell around the globe.

He hosts hunters at his 1,000-acre upland game bird preserve, Great Expectations Hunting, from Sept. 1 through April 1, providing guided hunts with his five hunting dogs.

Spending those months working as a guide leaves Russell little time to hunt locally, so he spends his off-season hunting in areas of the world where they still have an open season.

Since the seasons are opposite in places like Argentina, it allows him to hunt in April, May and June.

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Lady Prospectors Dig Pink

Grant Union volleyball team prepares for district meet

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY – The Grant Union Lady Prospectors hosted their 7th Annual Dig Pink Rally last Saturday, with proceeds from admission, raffle baskets, bake sale and T-shirt sales benefiting the Side Out Foundation for breast cancer research and the Blue Mountain Hospital Foundation for mammograms.

Grant Union head coach Shae Speth said the event was a success.

"We always have a great turnout for the event, and this year was no exception," she said. "Our community is generous, and it is important for the team to give back and provide awareness for such a great cause."

The Prospectors hosted the Cove Leopards and Elgin Huskies and took the sweep in both matches.

The scores against Cove were 25-15, 25-4 and 25-8, and scores against Elgin were 25-9, 25-11, 25-12.

She said Elgin has improved significantly since last year.

"We put up another solid performance on the day," she said. "Offensively, this is one of our top matches in attack efficiency on the season."

The Prospectors also had two road games last week.

Tuesday, Oct. 13, they lost a tough match to Burns 1-3.

The scores were 21-25, 18-25, 25-15, 18-25.

"Overall, we played a lot better than when we met earlier in the season," Speth said, adding the team was tougher at the net with better defensive coverage.

"We had early leads in all sets, but we tended to allow Burns to make a run mid-set in each," she said. "We have to do better at minimizing our opponents' runs as we move into the post season."

On Friday, Grant Union beat the Union Bobcats 3-0 with scores of 25-4, 25-22, 25-12.

"We got off to a quick start in the first set, but let up in the second a bit," Speth said. "We had a great crowd in Union as all of our sports teams played there that day – it helped create a fun atmosphere for the team."

She said the team is now working to limit errors and create opportunities as they prepare for the district championship on Saturday at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande, where they face Imbler at 9 a.m.



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Grant Union Prospector Kori Carpenter (5) jumps up to spike the ball, her teammates ready for the next move, including Kenzie Wilson (4), Rheanna Cartner (6) and Samantha Brock (3).

"If we win, we play later that day against Burns for the district championship," she said. "If we lose, we play the winner of the Union-Elgin game for the third state playoff spot from our league – so our focus this week is preparation for Imbler."



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