



Contributed photo/Tanni Wenger Photography Studio

Quarterback Riley Averett (11) of the black team looks to pass and Joe Radinovich (55), Russ Reimers (28) and Leonard Coley (73) get in on the play.

Alumni reunite for football fun

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY – The Grant Union Alumni “Old Man” football game pitted fathers against sons and friends against friends last Friday for a taste of the good ol’ glory days.

The black team left Three Flags Field with bragging rights after defeating the white team.

The competition was all in good fun, as indicated by the light-hearted awards handed out at the close of the contest.

The Most Valuable Players, Riley Averett and Robert Hunt, were each given a silver football.

“The Princess Award,” a glittery high heel shoe, was given to Casey Hallgarth and Russ Reimers for avoiding injuries.

Blinged-out toilet plungers were given to Dominic DeHaven and Tyler Martin for “Plugging up the Holes in Defense.”

“Bottle Award,” a baby bottle, was awarded to Tucker Wright and Logan Delano, two of the youngest players.

Jay Carniglia and Leonard Coley won the “Preparation H Award” and were given decked out canes.

The “Stink It Up Award,” toilet-paper roll necklace, went to Zeke Langum and Kyle Myers.

Funds raised from the game and taco feed will support the junior and senior high football teams.

Tickets for a tailgate raffle basket will be available again when Grant Union hosts Imbler at 7 p.m. Friday at Three Flags Field, and the winner will be announced at halftime.

Tigers and Panthers end season at district tourney

County coaches look forward to next year

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY – The Dayville/Monument Tigers faced the Prairie City Panthers to kick off the 1A District Volleyball Tournament last Saturday at Grant Union in John Day.

The Tigers pounced to a 3-1 win in close sets over the Panthers, with scores of 25-20, 22-25, 25-18 and 25-22, then fell to Crane and Jordan Valley.

Prairie City lost the consolation game to Harper/Huntington.

Crane won the tournament’s championship game with Adrian in second and Jordan Valley, third.

Dayville/Monument built an early lead in the first set with Prairie City and held on to outpace the Panthers.

The Panthers trailed by a point or two throughout most of the second set, but tied the score 18-18 and kept ahead for the win.

Tiger Ravyn Walker went down with an injury, but returned for the later two games.

In the third set Prairie City had the upper hand to begin with, but after tying 13-13, Dayville/Monument pulled away with the win. Tiger player Kyla Emerson contributed to the win with a serving run that helped her team make the comeback.

The Tigers kept the momentum going in the fourth and when the Panthers caught up to them, tying the score 18-18, Dayville/Monument’s Kendall Hettinga delivered a couple spikes to regain the lead and eventually win the



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Dayville/Monument’s Kendall Hettinga (2) spikes the ball over the reach of Prairie City players at last Saturday’s 1A District Tournament.

“The girls had the best day of volleyball that we’ve had all season.”

Tiffnie Schmadeka
Dayville/Monument Tigers head volleyball coach

match.

“The girls had the best day of volleyball that we’ve had all season,” said Tiger head coach Tiffnie Schmadeka. “Against the Panthers, we were able to successfully pass the ball which led to many kills. These sets were very close, so I was proud of my girls to stay focused and to finish them strongly.”

She said the team also served well against Crane and had great digs in the game.

The Tigers fell to Crane with scores of 21-25, 19-25 and 22-25.

“These were also close sets, and I was so proud of our team for playing so strong against them,” she said.

As the day wore on,

Schmadeka said the team was somewhat drained against Jordan Valley.

They lost with scores of 20-25, 20-25, 25-18 and 20-25.

“We made some good attacks on the ball and were able to serve tough,” she said. “It was a very tough loss for our girls since it was the last game this season.”

Dayville/Monument players Emma Hettinga and Kendall Hettinga were named to the All-District first team.

Schmadeka said the Tigers progressed throughout the season.

“They worked together our last day to show the type of team they are,” she said. “I’m already looking forward to next season.”

Prairie City

Prairie City head coach Louanne Zwegardt said Dayville/Monument “came out strong and ready to play.”

“They had a lot of hustle and Kendall Hettinga was hitting really well,” she said. “We weren’t able to build up enough momentum to overcome them.”

After losing the first game, and state playoff hopes, Zwegardt said her team had a tough time bringing their energy up against Harper/Huntington.

They lost the game with scores of 19-25, 25-19 and 10-15.

“It wasn’t the finish we were looking for, but we did have a lot of improvement over the season and are looking forward to next year already.”

Tigers fight to bitter end in Crane

Young team learns and improves

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

CRANE – The Dayville/Monument Tigers ended their football season in Crane last Friday with an 8-98 loss to the Mustangs.

“We played hard that game and never gave up,” said head coach Nathaniel Ashley.

The only team in the Special District 1 league able to beat Crane this year was Adrian, which is ranked No. 1 in the state.

Ashley said the character of his young and inexperienced team was evident this season as they improved and persevered through the challenging games.

“The two seniors we have were great leaders and kept pushing everyone to get better – they will leave big shoes to fill next year,” he said.

The seniors were Dakota Emerson and Garrett Warner.

“This year, the scoreboard didn’t read as good as we had hoped for, but these guys kept playing and fighting,” coach Ashley said. “That said a lot about the attitude and heart of this group.”

WINS

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The team suffered losses until their final two games held Oct. 10 when they defeated Crane and Dayville/Monument’s junior varsity teams in close sets.

“It was inspiring to see the season progress to our final wins on Long Creek’s homecoming day,” the coach said. “I had chills through each set of both games.”

She said that as a coach she loves to see the team’s rapid progression and trust built between the players.

“Seeing the confidence build is the best part of coaching new girls every year – most of which have never played any sports before,” she said. “It just amazes me that these girls go from not being able to make a single playable pass, to setting up three hits, and scoring points, not just from the other team’s mistakes but by calculating where the ball should go and placing it there – I love it all.”

Seniors on this year’s team, Alejandra “Ale” Cabral of Mexico and Raquel Silva of Brazil, said they were happy with how the season ended.

Silva has played volleyball throughout her high school years, participating with a club team in Brazil.

She said she’s enjoyed traveling with the Mountaineer/Cougars this season.

“We won because we practiced a lot,” she said of the final two games. “Everybody was trying to win the games because of homecoming.”

This is Cabral’s first year playing volleyball, although she joined in practices last year with the team.

“I like how different it was from the first game to the last game, and how we all improved together,” Cabral said, adding, “I think we had a lot of energy and it was our homecoming game, so we pushed ourselves and kept a good attitude going. I’m glad I was able to play volleyball – it’s fun, and I love it.”

EMMA HETTINGA

School: Dayville
Grade: 12
Parents: Matt and Sarah Hettinga
Sport: Volleyball

What I like best about my sport: “Volleyball is my passion. It’s my release from the everyday. I love traveling with my team and feeling the adrenaline of the game and killing the ball.”

Coach’s Comment: “She is a great athlete and very coachable. She is one of our setters this year and a middle blocker. I’m super impressed with her growth. She has a love for the game, and she is fun to watch play.”

– Tiffnie Schmadeka

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Plan ahead for detour around U.S. 395 closure south of John Day Nov. 4-14

Highway Closure: U.S. 395 (the John Day-Burns Hwy.) will be closed south of John Day November 4 through 14 between mile post 2.5-C (near Adams Road at south end of Canyon City) and mile post 17-C (near the Izee-Paulina Road intersection). The ten-day closure is needed to facilitate the replacement of two aging culverts under the highway at Sheep Gulch near mile post 6.1-C and Vance Creek near mile post 11-C.

Purpose/Need: Both culverts are insufficient to handle the extra water and debris flow anticipated this winter after the Canyon Creek Complex Fire destroyed soil stabilizing trees and vegetation in the area. The U.S. Forest Services is estimating a 100 to 650 percent increase in water along several creeks that drain off the mountainside into Canyon Creek and other local tributaries. The immediately needed project will replace the culverts with new structures designed to accommodate the anticipated flows. Without the work, the highway is at risk of a washout event that would likely close the highway for several weeks.

Detour Route: There is no local detour established around the work sites for through traffic. Southbound travelers will need to detour along U.S. Hwy. 26 to Vale, then back along U.S. Hwy. 20 to Burns (reverse for northbound) or take other alternate routes that remain passable in wintertime.

ODOT understands this highway closure will impact travel through the area and will complete the project as quickly as possible. Your patience and cooperation are greatly appreciated.

For more information, including a project flyer with location map, visit the ODOT Region 5 website at www.tinyurl.com/odot-region5.

Questions: Contact the ODOT District 14 office at 541-889-9115.

The John Day Swim Team would like to thank the following for supporting them in their 2015 swim season:

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