

GU

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“We didn’t know what lineup changes we might have to make before and during the match, said head coach Shae Speth. “It ended up that we were able to stay with our usual rotation. We practice in a way that any player can play pretty much any position and with any combination of players.”

After scoring the first two points in the first set, Central Linn got on the board and the teams kept the scoring fairly close as the teams tried to become familiar with what the other team was bringing offensively and defensively.

Prospector Samantha Brock extended the lead, 17-12, then the Cobras made a push, getting within one at 21-20 before Grant Union pulled away behind strong serving by Kori Pentzer and key attacks by Mariah Moulton.

Moulton finished out the set serving, with a kill by Pentzer on the last point of the set.

After a rough start on



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Gathering in the middle the Prospectors cheer after successful rally are, from left, Kori Pentzer, Jocelynn Smith, Rheanna Cartner, Mariah Moulton, Chelsie Kodesh and Samantha Brock.

serve-serve in the second set, Grant Union pushed ahead early with tough serving from Samantha Brock.

“We settled in a bit more than in the first set, and Central Linn made several hitting errors,” said head coach Shae Speth.

Pentzer served two aces in a row which pushed the score to 17-6, finishing the set with a kill.

Prospector Chelsie Kodesh was on a roll early in the third

set with a strong serving run, pushing the score to 8-2.

Central Linn had trouble controlling the ball, as Grant Union dominated for the win.

Speth said she expects tough competition on the road ahead.

“There are eight very good teams at Redmond, and it comes down to who plays the best on those two days,” she said. “We have strong representation from the Wapiti League with all three teams

making the Final 8 – Burns, Grant Union, Imbler – and another two from the other eastern Oregon league – Culver and Weston-McEwen.”

She expects Bonanza will be a strong team.

“From film, we’ll look to see what their tendencies are, but we strongly believe that if we play our game and play well, we can beat anyone,” she said. “Regardless of what happens this weekend, we’ve had an incredible season, and one of the best in our program history. But we are definitely not just happy to be going back to Redmond – we want to win.”

The Prospectors will have a send off at 3:15 p.m. Thursday from the school parking lot.

The stats
Grant Union vs. Central Linn
Mariah Moulton: 11 kills, 1 ace, 6 digs
Samantha Brock: 6 kills, 1 ace, 1 dig, 2 block assists
Kenzie Wilson: 1 solo block, 4 block assists
Kori Pentzer: 16 kills, 4 aces, 100 percent serve-serve, 7 digs
Rheanna Cartner: 3 aces, 8 digs, 2 block assists
Heather Mosley: 2 kills
Jocelynn Smith: 1 kill, 1 solo block
Taylor McCluskey: 100 percent serving
Chelsie Kodesh: 2 aces, 13 digs



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Grant Union’s Wyatt Weaver rushes to the outside to gain yards for the Prospectors in last Friday’s game against Imbler.

PROS

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Wyatt Weaver caught the touchdown pass and Cauy Weaver caught for the extra two points.

It was during Imbler’s next series McConnell went down with an injury after a tackle and was helped off the field.

Imbler’s Tyler Tandy scored for the Panthers, bringing the score to 16-6.

After Prospector Hayden Young added six more points for Grant Union, the team recovered an inside kick to Imbler and closed the first quarter with a 22-6 lead.

Tandy found an open spot to score again in the second quarter and the Panthers gained the two points.

Imbler tried to hold back Grant Union in the red zone; on fourth down, the Prospectors had a timeout and Reimers persevered to score six more.

A highlight at the close of the quarter came when Wyatt Weaver caught an interception.

Grant Union held a 28-14 lead going into the half.

The Grant Union cheerleaders and dance students from Body, Fitness, Dance performed a halftime routine.

In the third quarter, the crowd cheered as Prospector Elijah Humbird made a fourth-down tackle; however, Grant Union was unable to make good on the turnover.

Imbler came back to gain

eight more points, and later, after a nine-play series, tied the score 28-28.

The Panthers’ conversion points put them ahead of the game for the first time with 8:22 left in the third.

Imbler scored in the fourth, and took two interceptions straight to the goal line.

Young covered the field to score on a kickoff return, but the Prospectors were out of time to recover, and the game ended.

Grant Union and fans had high hopes the team would make it to the playoffs, and the game against Imbler was the deciding factor, as well as how a couple other teams ranked.

Burns and Imbler advance to the playoffs from the Wapiti League this week, with Burns facing Toledo and Imbler facing Lost River Saturday.

Although Friday’s loss was a letdown, the Prospectors made it a better season this year with a 4-4 overall record and 2-2 in league.

Finishing up their high school football career are six seniors: Andrew Copenhaver, Antonio Dancer, Clayton Vaughan, Garrett McConnell, Hayden Young and Wyatt Weaver.

The seniors played on the team throughout their high school years, with Weaver joining the program this year.

“The team improved this year through increased maturity, improved leadership, and more consistent effort in practice and games,” Miller said. “I am proud of their efforts and their way they played with intensity. Looking forward, we need to continue to improve our mental and physical toughness.”

He added, “This year’s senior class had a great four-year stint in the program – they will be missed.”

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2016 Annual Board Meeting and Officer Elections

November 15th at 2 p.m.
Outpost Pizza, Pub and Grill

Grant County Little League has supported youth softball and baseball programs for many years; join us at our annual meeting and become a voting member, board member or coach! The success of these programs depends on your participation.

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CHEER

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“We plan to do more volunteer work next year,” Marciel said.

Marciel was involved with cheer as a high school student, and said when she saw the cheer coach position open, she jumped at the chance.

“It’s been my dream to come back and coach the cheer team,” she said.

“I’d like to thank Jason Miller (football head coach) for his support of cheerleading and allowing us to support the football team,” she said.

Marciel said Gibson’s leadership as the sole senior this year has been helpful.

“She’s stepped up and taught me as well as the other girls, so she’s been a valuable asset.”

“All four years have been great – win or lose,” Gibson



Mariah Gibson

said. “Even though I’m on to bigger and better things, I’ll never forget cheering for the Prospectors.”

She said having a different coach each year was difficult at times, but added, “You have to find a way to make it work for the sport.”

Her favorite part of cheering is “the adrenaline and the emotions when you get involved and pumped up with the games,” she said.

Commenting on the tradition of the cheerleaders doing one push-up per point when touchdowns are scored, she said, “I can definitely do push-ups even better.”

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Early Deadline for the Nov. 10th Edition
Ad, Classified & Legal Deadline: Thursday, Nov. 5th by 5 p.m.

02910

the corner's HOT SHOT OF THE WEEK

WYATT WILLIAMS
School: Prairie City
Grade: 11
Parents: Brook and Ryan Williams
Sport: Football

What I like best about my sport: “My favorite thing about football is when the whole team comes together and makes a great play, and you really feel a sense of accomplishment.”

Coach’s Comment: “He played utility this year and made substantial progress. He took each task he was asked to do without complaining and worked hard. I’m looking forward to having him back next year – you can’t ask for more in an athlete.”

– Coach Darrel McKrola

Photo by Tanni Wenger Photography Studio

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