



Grant Union catcher Brianna Zweggardt makes the grab in time for the out at home as a Heppner runner slides.

The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

# Grant Union softball chalks up three wins



Grant Union Prospector Jocelynn Smith reaches first in Friday's home opener against the Heppner Mustangs.

The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

## Head coach Nash pleased with pitching options, team

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY — The Grant Union softball team showed their winning ways last weekend, beating the Heppner Mustangs 15-4 at home on Friday and sweeping in Lakeview, with 14-8 wins in the two games.

Grant Union dominated in their home opener against Heppner.

The Prospectors took the win in four and a half innings with Mariah Moulton pitching the first four and Cody Jo Madden closing it out with three up, three down and none on base. The pair gave up six hits and had six strikeouts.

After a quiet first inning, Grant

Union got on the board when Janelle King batted in Hailey Wright. Heppner came back with two runs in the top of the third, but then the Prospector bats heated up. Grant Union bumped their score up 11-2 in the bottom of the inning.

Ravyn Walker started the blitz when she batted Railey Namitz home, Walker reaching home plate on an error. Madden and Namitz each had two RBI off doubles, and Moulton had two RBI off a single, with Moulton batting in one earlier in the inning. Madden also scored on an error.

Heppner increased their score by two in the fourth, and Grant Union

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# GC track teams compete at Don Walker Invite

Teams compete in Burns on Saturday

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

NYSSA — Three Grant County track and field teams competed with 20 other teams from 1A through 4A classes at last Friday's Don Walker Invitational.

Grant Union, Dayville and Prairie City teams also competed at the Grant Union Small Schools Invitational in John Day on Tuesday this week, past press time.

After the Nyssa event, head coach Sonna Smith said her Grant Union girls team is in a good position for the league title.

"The girls did great," she said. "Kaylee Wright and Kori Pentzer are first in 2A for javelin, long jump and triple jump. We have few boys, but they are holding their own in their standings in state and league with Andrew Copenhaver leading the pack. We are hoping to have some outstanding showings at our home meet on Tuesday (April 5)."

Dayville head coach Peter Bogardus said his team is young, with only two competing this year, but they performed well.

"Both of our athletes PR'd repeatedly, and Kristina Humphreys took first in the javelin, winning the team 10 points to beat 12 other schools singlehandedly," he said.

Prairie City head coach Joe Weymouth said he is looking forward to the season.

On his team, pole vaulter Garrett Hitz came in second to a 3A Emmett, Idaho, athlete.

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Contributed photo/Nancy Hitz

Prairie City Panther Megan Camarena throws shot put at last Friday's Don Walker Invitational in Nyssa.

## Grant Union to host invite at JD Golf Club

Six teams compete on Friday

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY — The Grant Union High School golf team hosts their annual invitational at 11 a.m. Friday at the John Day Golf Club.

Head coach Ron Lundbom said teams expected to join Grant Union include Enterprise, Wallowa, Vale, Heppner and Burns.

"Everybody is looking forward to it," he said. "Our course is in such good shape this time of year. Mike Walker, the greens keeper, does a great job."

Lundbom has five boys and two girls on his team this year, and he's expecting 50 to 60 golfers on Friday.

He added there will be a hamburger feed for the athletes after the tournament.

Grant Union competed at the Pendleton Invitational last Friday, and results are still pending from that event.

The Grant Union golf team will hold an 18-hole fundraiser scramble with a 10 a.m. shotgun start Saturday, April 16, at the John Day Golf Club.

There is a \$100 team entry fee (handicap suggested but not required).

There will be a 50/50 drawing and closest to the pin contest at hole No. 4, an accuracy drive at hole No. 7, and one gross and two net prizes.

A silent auction will be held all day, and a \$5 barbecue hamburger feed will be held after the scramble.

To sign up, contact the clubhouse at 541-575-0170 or mail entry to Lundbom at 620 SE Hillcrest Road, John Day, OR 97845.

For more information, Lundbom can be reached at 541-620-0427.

## On a new track: PC team gears up for new season

Panthers will host teams at new 8-lane track

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

PRAIRIE CITY — Panther trackster Amaya Zweggardt is getting a little help from fellow senior teammate Garrett Hitz, as she adds a new event to her list this season: the pole vault.

Hitz is returning state 1A pole vault champion, having earned the top spot at University of Oregon's Hayward Field last season with a mark of 13-3.

Zweggardt, Hitz and Teri Cobb are leading out as seniors this year.

Head coach Joe Weymouth has been head track and field coach for 10 years with 27 years, overall, coaching sports.

"We're small, but have a lot of good individual competitors," he said. "We've actually taken state with three boys before, several years ago."



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Prairie City Panther track and field seniors are, from left, Amaya Zweggardt, Garrett Hitz and Teri Cobb.

Pointing at the new asphalt and bright striping, Weymouth said, "This year, what's exciting is the new track."

The Panthers will host the Saturday, April 30, Prairie City Small Schools Meet and the Thursday, May 5, High Desert League Meet — a twilight meet a week before the district championship.

"We're all appreciative to the

new track facilities," he said.

The track and field are located at the athletic complex on 12th Street.

Weymouth works with the runners on the team and has assistance from Joe Hitz for pole vault and Kieley Williams with jumping events. Kerry Foster is the junior high coach and also assists the varsity team.

"I really love working with

kids and seeing them progress," Weymouth said. "It's a lot of fun. The junior high track and field team members are also quick learners."

He said new members of the varsity team include junior Wyatt Williams, sophomore Dorrin Wilson and freshman Haley Pfefferkorn.

The varsity team has been at practice since early March.

"I'm just getting back into the track mode," Garrett Hitz said. "I have a goal of beating the 1A state track record in the pole vault."

Hitz is on his way to that goal after winning second place at the Don Walker Invitation in Nyssa last week — finishing in first was a 3A athlete from Emmett, Idaho.

Hitz also competes in javelin, hurdles and high jump.

He and Zweggardt have been competing in track since sixth grade.

Zweggardt said she's "learning all the basics" of pole vault.

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