



Lady Pros roll out hard-fought win over Imbler

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant Union Prospectors reserved energy to dig deep and win an important battle last Thursday night against the Imbler Panthers.

Grant Union claimed the 3-2 victory with scores of 23-25, 25-22, 21-25, 26-24 and 15-9.

"I'm so proud of my team for sticking it out and getting a win against the No. 1 team in 2A," said Prospector senior Natalie Stearns.

Prospector senior Heather Mosley said she was happy with how the team played.

"We came back from getting down," she said. "I'm just really proud of everybody."

Imbler entered the match ranked No. 1 for OSAA's Class 2A teams, while Grant Union was No. 3.

At one point in the first set, Grant Union was down 9-16, and although this one slipped away, they battled back to make it a close 23-25 contest.

Scores were close throughout the second set, as Prospectors hung on to win 25-22.

Down 6-13 in the third set, Prospector junior Mariah Moulton narrowed the deficit by one point as she served up a storm. Imbler pushed back and overtook the set, winning it by four.

The "volume" was set on high as fans from both sides cheered for their teams, heading down the stretch.

Scores were close in the fourth, and Grant Union held on with Prospector junior Whitney McClellan serving steady to close out the 26-24 set.

Grant Union clamped down on a lead in the fifth set to win 15-9.

"We had a strong game plan to slow down their outside hitters, and our blockers executed that plan throughout the match," said head coach Shae Speth. "Heather Mosley dominated at the middle hitter/blocker position with 13 kills, and was in on nine blocks."

She added, junior Reagan Shelley and sophomores Kaylee Wright and Hailie Wright also contributed in slowing down strong Imbler hitters.

"Defensively, we continued to improve on covering the court," Speth said. "We served and passed the best we have all season so far. The win showed a lot of character and heart from the team as we had to fight for every point, and Imbler even had match point against us in the fourth set."

It was a fun, intense atmosphere, and we believe this league matchup will continue to be a tough one throughout the rest of the season," she said.

One of the team's goals this season is to become league champions.

"We still have a lot of work to do, but this puts us in a position," Speth said.

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The Eagle/Angel Carpenter
Grant Union Prospector Heather Mosley had a good night as middle hitter and middle blocker in Thursday's game against Imbler.



Golfers aim to 'give cancer a boot'



Photos by The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

ABOVE: A family group at the Rally for the Cure golf scramble took on a pirate theme, golfing in memory of their mother and grandmother, including, from left, Austene Schneider of Estacada, Heidi Lowry of Estacada, Sheila Edmunson of Bend and Toni Lowry of Beaver Creek.
TOP: Dressed in their finest shades of pink, 38 women gather for Saturday's Rally for the Cure Golf Scramble at the John Day Golf Club course. The ladies divided into nine teams for the scramble. Co-ed teams golfed Sunday.

58 participants gather for scramble

By Angel Carpenter
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A colorful crew of 58 golfers turned out for the Oct. 1-2 Rally for the Cure golf scramble at the John Day Golf Club.

Dressed in an array of pink cowboys hats, boots, pirate garb and other costumes, it was ladies only for the first day of friendly competition and a co-ed scramble on the second day.

"We couldn't have asked for a better day," said organizer Kim Ward of Mt. Vernon. "Everybody came out and had a great time, and a lot of memories were made."

Ward, an ambassador for Susan G. Komen, has help from committee members Victoria Mullany, Lynda Farrell and Kathleen Lee.

She has additional assistance from her mom and dad Gail and Bob

Burton of Dallas.

Proceeds from the event, including \$1,400 from an auction, are donated to the Komen foundation and an organization that helps women in the local area.

"We want to thank to the local businesses for items they donated," Ward said.

"On deck," dressed as pirates, were Lanni Strong of Prairie City and her sisters Toni Lowry of Beaver Creek and Randi Fisher of Tigard.

Each headed up a team of four in the scramble in memory of their mom, the late Donna Edmunson of Prairie City, who died of cancer.

The three teams rode in golf carts which were transformed into pirate ships.

Strong said they started out golfing at the Rally for the Cure with their mom, and since she passed away several years ago, they've continued the tradition.

Each year, they pick a theme for costumes and golf cart decorations, and they give a putter away to a ran-

dom winner at the rally.

It's all in good fun.

"Most of these girls golf once a year," Strong said. "We have a girls weekend and go to dinner Friday night, and they camp out at our house."

They'll choose their costume theme for next year's rally by drawing from a hat.

"It is something we've carried on in our mom's name," Strong said. "It meant a lot to her for us to be together and golf as a team."

Rally for the Cure results: Winners on Sunday

1st Gross: Andy and Maxine Day, Bill Barrett and Donna Carter Barrett

Winners on Saturday

1st Gross: Nita VanVoorhis, Janie Cole, Maxine Day
 2nd Gross: Kimberly Ward, Gail Burton, Jeanette Hueckman and Melody Jackson
 KP winner: Gail Burton
 Chip up contest: Janie Cole
 Cart Decorating: Lanni Strong family pirates
 Janie Cole won a golf bag donated by the Susan G. Komen Foundation, and \$1,400 was raised through an auction with auctioneer Clay Tannler.

Crowns all around at NPRA's finals rodeo

Rodeo royalty will hold Meet & Greet, Oct. 15

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

Ten-year-old Rowdy Israel of Dayville was crowned Li'l Miss NPRA at the Sept. 24 Northwest Professional Rodeo Association's finals rodeo in Prineville.

She competed with other girls in Region 3 east of the Cascades, including Dally May Moore, 9, of Mt. Vernon and Dakota Howell of La Pine, who were named princesses.

"It was really fun," Israel said. "I wanted to become Li'l Miss NPRA to help promote the sport of rodeo and to be someone the younger generations can look up to."

The contest is for girls ages 4 through 10 years old.

Israel, a fifth-grader at Dayville School, said she's looking forward to a Meet & Greet with the local rodeo court this month, and riding in at the start of the Cinnabar Mountain Play-

days rodeos next year.

She was joined at the Sept 24 and 25 NPRA Finals Rodeo by the Grant County Fair and Rodeo Queen Jessica Carter of Seneca and Princess Jessica Hutchison of John Day and their advisor Nicole Israel, Rowdy's mom.

The older royalty girls promoted the Grant County Fair and Rodeo during both nights of the rodeo and at a Saturday fashion show.

Carter, Hutchison and Rowdy will hold a Meet & Greet Grant County Royalty event from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, at the Corner Cup Coffee House, 100 E. Main, in John Day.

Proceeds from a 50/50 contest they'll hold will benefit the queen and princess wardrobe and travel expenses.

The rodeo court's coronation dinner is set for 5 p.m., Nov. 20, at the Grant County Fairgrounds pavilion.

"We look forward to seeing everyone come out and show their support for our Grant County Rodeo Royalty," said advisor Nicole Israel. "It's going to be a great year, and we look forward to representing Grant County."



Contributed photo/LindseyWyllie.com
FROM LEFT: 2016 Miss NPRA Beth Snider, 2017 Miss NPRA Sam Henricks and 2017 Li'l Miss NPRA Rowdy Israel of Dayville.

A family rodeo tradition continues

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

Chad Finley of Mt. Vernon took a second-place finish in calf roping at the Sept. 24-25 NPRA Finals Rodeo in Prineville.

The event bumped him up from 11th to fifth in the NPRA Year End standings, earning \$5,651.70.

"I was one out of placing in the money in the first round and came back and won second in the average," Finley said.

He plans to compete at the Oct. 22-23 Idaho Cowboys Association rodeo in Caldwell, Idaho.

As of Sept. 25, Finley is 12th in the ICA standings.

Finley's brother Ty Holly of Mt. Vernon is 13th in the ICA standings and 10th in



Contributed photo/LindseyWyllie.com

Chad Finley competes in tie-down roping at the NPRA Finals Rodeo in Prineville.

the NPRA Year End standings, earning \$3,863.46. He placed third in calf roping at the Pendleton Round-Up last month.

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