

BASEBALL

Continued from Page A9

Williams said the team's varsity and junior varsity spots and positions will be lined out this week.

As part of the 2A/1A Special District 6, Grant Union will face league opponents: Culver, Dufur/South Wasco County, Elgin, Heppner/Ione, Pilot Rock/Nixyaawii, Sherman/Arlington/Condon, Union/Cove, Weston-McEwen and Wheeler.

Williams said they don't know a lot about the teams they'll face, but he anticipates Dufur, Pilot Rock and Sherman will be tough.

There are 16 league games scheduled with doubleheaders on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

A new OSAA rule this year restricts pitchers to a 110 pitch count with four days of rest.

"It should hopefully protect the kids, but it's definitely going to be a challenge," he said, adding, "We have 14 kids working in the bull pen, working on their pitching skills on rotation every other day."

Zack Deiter and Wade Reimers were among the starting pitchers last year.

Reimers, who is recovering from a shoulder injury, said he'll miss playing defense.

He's returning as a designated hitter, and can still play middle infielder, taking grounders.

"I'm looking forward to the season," he said, adding the team is excited about the coaching staff.

"They seem really good in their knowledge of baseball," he said. "I hope for a great season."

Williams said he's looking to his two seniors, Billy Copenhaver and Brogan McKrola, for leadership.

"I look for them to lead by example and teach the younger kids how to hustle and how to act on the field and in the classroom," he said.

"I'm excited to get back into playing baseball with these guys," Copenhaver said. "I missed most of last season due to injury, and I'm ready to go and super excited."

McKrola said he likes the group they have out for this year's team.

"I'm really looking forward to the season," he said. "With this new coaching staff, it's going really good. I can't wait to see what happens."

Williams said the team is young, but "everything is going good so far."

"We're working on all aspects of the game, including fielding, hitting and basic knowledge of the game," he said.

"We'd like to win league and go to district and win state, but, one step at a time," he said. "You've got to win the first game and get better every game."



Contributed photo

The Prairie City Junior High Lady Panthers basketball team placed second at the Huntington tournament Feb. 24-25. The boys team also placed second.

Prairie City junior high hoops teams place second

Blue Mountain Eagle

The Prairie City Junior High boys and girls basketball teams each placed second at the Huntington tournament Feb. 24-25.

Eight teams competed, and the North Powder boys and girls both placed first.

Prairie City girls Katie Hire and Abby Pfefferkorn and boys Jajari Field and Declan Zwegardt were named all stars.

END

Continued from Page A9

was "another game where we could just not get going offensively. We were able to make a small run in the third quarter but not enough to sustain the comeback."

Grant Union finished the regular season ranked 10th with a 15-8 season record. East Linn was ranked seventh with a 17-11 record.

In the game, Grant Union's Mariah Moulton led the Prospectors in points, gaining five in the first half and nine in the second. Madi McKrola scored four in the first half and four in the second.

McKrola grabbed six offensive rebounds and four defensive rebounds in the game, and Prospector Kaylee Wright had two offensive rebounds and five defensive rebounds.

Hailie Wright and McKrola each had two steals in the match.

Moda Health Players of the Game were Grant Union's Mariah Moulton and East Linn's Sydney Nicol.

Moulton said, win or lose, competing at state was a great experience.

"Having the same team come back next year is a plus," she said. "We're ready to win it next year. We're hungry for a win."

McKrola said she's proud of their team.

"We had a really young team and stepped into some big roles," she said. "We got a lot farther than people expected and that was fun."

Coach Mosley said the team's goal from the beginning of the season was to be league champions, district



EO Media Group/Kathy Aney

Grant Union's Madi McKrola concentrates as she prepares to make a free throw attempt Thursday night during a OSAA 2A state basketball championship quarterfinal game against Kennedy at the Pendleton Convention Center.

champions and to return to Pendleton to the Final 8.

"All these goals were reached, except the district title," he said. "Losing our only senior to a season-ending injury caused our younger girls to step up and fill some big roles. The girls did an amazing job. They stayed focused, and we were able to reach our end goal."

Highlights include winning the preseason Umatilla

Tournament and the win on the road in the first round of state at Pilot Rock.

"This is a tremendous group of kids, and the amazing thing is, they all return next year," he said. "They need to be proud of their accomplishments."

"I would like to thank the community for their support and my coaching staff for hours of hard work."

Five junior high Pros advance to state wrestling tournament

Justin Hodge is a champion, wrestling at 125

Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant Union sent 17 wrestlers to the middle school district tournament March 4 at Boardman's Riverside High School, where five of the grapplers placed in the top three in their weight class.

These qualifiers advance to the Saturday, March 11, Oregon Middle School

Wrestling Championships in Woodburn with action starting at 9 a.m.

The team is coached by Jake Batease and assistant Kyle Erickson.

The advancing five include:

Justin Hodge (125), grade 7, champion

Tanner Way (195), grade 8, second place

Kevin Duvall (275), grade 8, second place

Bladen Burril (275), grade 8, third place

Ethan Moore (85), grade 8, third place



Contributed photo/Cindy Dougharty-Spencer

Led by coach Jake Batease, back, five Grant Union junior high wrestlers are advancing to the Saturday, March 11, state championships, including, from left, Tanner Way, Bladen Burril, Justin Hodge, Kevin Duvall and Ethan Moore. There were 17 Prospector wrestlers competing at the March 4 event.

Lady Prospector receives All-State Tournament honor

Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant Union Lady Prospector Mariah Moulton, a junior, was selected for the 2A All-Tournament Second Team at the March 2-4 OSAA Basketball State Championships in Pendleton.



Contributed photo/Tanni Wenger Photography Studio
Mariah Moulton

LADY PROS

Continued from Page A9

Kennedy had a 12-8 lead going into the second and held Grant Union to two points at the half, the Trojans leading 20-10.

Kennedy out-rebounded Grant Union by 10 in the first half.

At the break, Grant Union head coach Mark Mosley encouraged his team.

"I challenged them to start being more aggressive," he said after the game. "In the third quarter, we came out and made a little run and got

some better looks at the rim."

The Prospectors outshot Kennedy 13-12 in the quarter, and Kennedy led 32-23 going into the fourth.

With 1:37 left in the game, McKrola was fouled and sank 2-2 at the free-throw line.

When Kennedy turned over the ball, McKrola scored off an inbound pass from Moulton, bringing Grant Union within six points of their opponents, 39-33, with 1:30 to go.

As the clock wound down, the Trojans hit 5-7 at the free-throw line to hold on for the win.

eOMEDIA group The most valuable and respected source of local news, advertising and information for our communities.
www.eomediagroup.com

You are cordially invited to attend special meditation services for Lent at Redeemer Lutheran Church. The theme for the 5 week series is "Experiencing the Face of Love."

Wednesday 6:30 PM
 March 8 - The Face of Peace
 March 15 - The Face of Gratitude
 March 22 - The Face of Provision
 April 5 - The Face of Obedience

The overall theme this year for Lent and Easter is "The Gift of Resurrection Life". These Lenten services are specially designed for meditation, prayer and experiencing the presence of the Divine. The meditative music and beautiful slides are especially created for individual worship. Here are insights into the individual topics:

- **The Face of Peace:** Three ways to bring the power of peace in your life.
- **The Face of Gratitude:** How to flood your life with joy and happiness with one habit.
- **The Face of Provision:** Learn how to be an anxiety annihilator.
- **The Face of Obedience:** Learn why obedience is not a dirty word or a destroyer of personal freedom.

Redeemer Lutheran Church
 627 S.E. Hillcrest, John Day
 541-575-5840

EOU IS SUCCESS

EOU is your path for success ONLINE | ON CAMPUS!

- > Personal attention and small class size
- > Great school value
- > Extraordinary academic experience

APPLY TODAY!
eou.edu/admissions/apply

For information
 541.575.2168 | ccronin@eou.edu | eou.edu/online

the corner's
HOT SHOT
 OF THE WEEK

SARAH ENNIS
 School: Prairie City
 Grade: 12
 Parents: Glenn & Andrea Ennis
 Sport: Basketball
 Position: Point guard

What I like best about my sport: "It's a team sport, and you get closer to your teammates and become like family. I also like being able to help the younger kids and watch them grow in their talents."

Coach's Comment: "She's been a good leader and team captain. She has a good on and off the court presence and has had a good attitude all season and is fun to be around."
 -Coach Bo Workman

PROUD SPONSOR OF GRANT COUNTY ATHLETES
100 E. Main • Stoplight in John Day
541-792-0425