



The Eagle/Sean Hart

# The Blue Mountain EAGLE

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## Eclipse watchers marvel at totality in John Day

# TOTALLY

# WORTH THE TRIP

EO Media Group/E.J. Harris

Henry Greutert and Katie Mertel, both of Mercer Island, watch the eclipse on Monday in John Day. TOP PHOTO: The total solar eclipse from Mt. Vernon Aug. 21.

By George Plaven  
EO Media Group

Anticipation turned to cheers Monday morning in John Day as visitors from around the world celebrated the arrival of the 2017 total solar eclipse.

For about two minutes, the moon came in perfect alignment with the sun, casting an otherworldly darkness that left spectators in awe. The skies remained mostly clear throughout the morning, offering a pristine view of the cosmic dance. Then, just as quickly as it came, it was over and light returned.

Located deep within the path of totality, John Day played host to thousands of eclipse watchers who made the trip to witness the once-in-a-lifetime event. A large crowd gathered over the weekend at the John Day Industrial Park, where campers reserved their spots months in advance to experience the eclipse in its full glory.

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EO Media Group/E.J. Harris

Patricia Johnson of Sacramento uses a pair of homemade eclipse viewing glasses on Monday in John Day.

## SOLAR SCIENCE

### Grant Union science teacher, students complete solar mission

#### Students test the waters of astronomy

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

"I was absolutely star-struck," said Declan Jensen after Monday's total solar eclipse.

Participation in a national total solar eclipse experiment gave Jensen, her former Grant Union teacher Sonna Smith and three other students a chance to follow in the footsteps of an astronomer.

Astronomers and amateur astronomers across America took part in a



Image of the total solar eclipse taken by Sonna Smith and her students, along with help from astronomer Tom Schad on Aug. 21 in John Day. Contributed photo

National Solar Observatory project called Citizen CATE (Continental-America Telescopic Eclipse).

The group, and 67 others from coast to coast, captured 1,000 photos each of the eclipse.

The photos were streamed together into a 90-minute movie, which is now featured at citizencate.org.

Grant Union sopho-

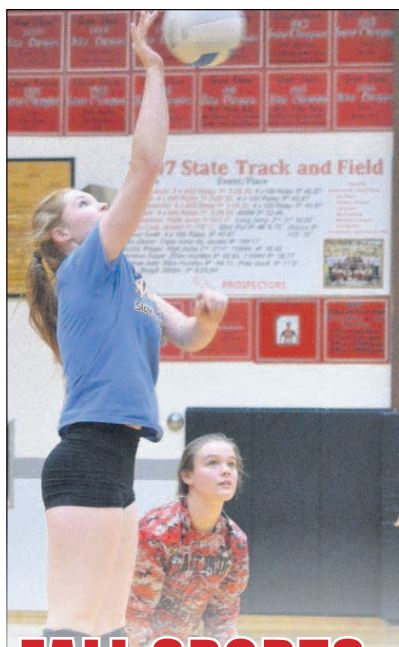
mores Gage Brandon and Donovan Smith, and Jensen's friend Anthony Allen, a 2016 graduate from Rocklin, California, were also involved in the local project that took place in Canyon City.

The high-resolution, rapid-cadence photos of the eclipse were not taken just for the purpose of

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More eclipse coverage inside

## SPORTS



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## Marching against hate

### County residents stand in solidarity with Charlottesville

By Rylan Boggs  
Blue Mountain Eagle

Roughly 60 people marched through John Day Aug. 15 in a demonstration against hate in solidarity with Charlottesville, Virginia, where a car appeared to intentionally crash into a group of counterprotesters at a "Unite the Right" rally attended by white supremacists.

Dozens were injured, and one person died from the crash. The driver was arrested. Two police officers also died in a helicopter crash while overseeing the marches and counterprotests.

Marches condemning neo-Nazis, the KKK and similar groups sprung up across the nation.



The Eagle/Rylan Boggs

Ashley Stevick, left, and Lindsay Rausch embrace after a march against hate through downtown John Day on Tuesday, Aug. 15.

Demonstrators marched along Main Street to the county's only stoplight where they chanted, waved signs and stood for photos. To end the evening, Janine Good-

win played a song on her viola in memory of Heather Heyer, Lt. H. Jay Cullen and Trooper Berke M.

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