



COLOR ME FREE

Fun run supports domestic violence awareness



Eagle photos/Angel Carpenter
Andrea Comer, left, and her mom, Sheila, of Canyon City run past Rylan Cox of John Day in Saturday's Color Me Free Fun Run and Walk at the John Day Industrial Park.

Colorful event highlights Heart of Grant County

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

Runners and walkers were showered in a rainbow of colors during Saturday's

Color Me Free Fun Run and Walk.

Heart of Grant County sponsored the event, held at the John Day Industrial Park, to kick off Domestic Violence Awareness Month.



A furry friend enjoys the Color Me Free Run.

"It's a healthy, fun family activity," said Heart executive director Shelly Whale-Murphy. "We promote healthy relationships, and it's a great way for the community to be reminded of the prevalence of domestic violence."

Each of the six colors thrown on participants were a chalky, nontoxic, food-grade powder.

Cammi Copenhaver and her son Brett, a junior at Grant Union High School, manned one table with a box of bright pink powder.

"It's a wonderful thing that they do," she said. "I'd like to see more youth involved."

It didn't take long for the pair to become pink from head to toe as they threw dry paint at the passing runners



Levi Kalin of Mt. Vernon runs past Brett Copenhaver, left, and his mom, Cammi, as they plaster him with dry pink paint at Saturday's Color Me Free Run. The fun run, sponsored by Heart of Grant County, kicks off Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

and walkers, and even a few dogs.

"It's a fun thing to do for the community," Brett said.

With other competing events and the start of hunting season, there were about 50 runners and walkers, plus several volunteers who threw powder.

After finishing the course, participants enjoyed free hot dogs, bottles of water and backpacks with prizes such as fruit chews, magnets and pins.

Tammy Larkin of John Day, Heart's office manager and outreach provider, brought along her daughter Trista Cox and three grandchildren who volunteered at the green powder table.

"It's so nice that families participate together — I love that part," Larkin said.

Whale-Murphy said Heart aims to be available to victims of domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, rape and teen dating violence, to help support their needs.

Their hotline number is 541-620-1342.

Any extra proceeds from the event go toward victim assistance, including emergency transportation, food cards, gas cards and other emergency needs.

For information, call Heart's office number, 541-575-4335.

Tigers spike out win over Panthers

Tigers host Adrian Saturday in Monument

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

The Monument/Dayville Tigers may have had a rough start to their week, but a will to win took them over the top in Saturday's match against the Prairie City Panthers.

The Tigers claimed victory in Monument 3-1 with scores of 25-20, 8-25, 25-20 and 25-14.

"I am beyond thrilled," said Tiger head coach Kristi Emerson. "We've come a long ways."

She said they found out that due to a player switching schools, their earlier games were forfeited — 10 games, including three league matches.

"They have more than pulled their weight with determination, enthusiasm and the fight to want it and to prove to themselves and others that they'll conquer," Emerson said. "It's an im-



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter
Monument/Dayville's Faythe Schafer (3) moves the ball as Prairie City's Cassie Hire goes up for the block.

portant game to win. Prairie City fought hard and played well. They're a good team with good athletes."

She added, "We're going to take it game by game, fight, have fun and be the champions that we are."

Monument/Dayville stayed ahead through nearly the entire first set.

The tables turned in the second, Prairie City gaining a strong, early lead. Panther

Brianna Zwegardt went on a 15-point serving run, giving the Tigers hardly a chance to answer back.

Halfway down the stretch of the third set, the teams tied the score then the Tigers kept a step ahead the rest of the way for a five-point win.

They kept their momentum going in the final set, springing ahead early for the lead.

"The team played really good," said Tiger Faythe

Schafer. "We just backed each other up and helped each other out. We cheered each other on and supported each other the whole time."

"We really came together as a team, even though we had a rough week," said Tiger Kyla Emerson. "We've been transitioning well. I hope we go far."

Prairie City coach Lance Zwegardt said his team will focus on mental toughness moving forward.

"(The Tigers) were aggressive in keeping the ball in play," he said. "There are always going to be down times. The biggest takeaway — we can't take anything for granted and work to earn every point."

Prairie City will host the Grant Union junior varsity I and II teams Thursday at 5 p.m. in Prairie City and Friday they host Jordan Valley for senior night at 3:30 p.m., starting with junior varsity.

Monument/Dayville hosts Adrian at 4 p.m. Saturday in Monument.

On Tuesday, Oct. 10, at 5:30 p.m., they face Long Creek/Ukiah in Long Creek.



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter
The Grant Union Prospectors celebrate after a successful rally in Friday's match against Union.

Lady Pros pound out 3-0 win over Bobcats

Grant Union holds on for close win

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

It was a battle to the end for the Grant Union Prospectors volleyball team, which claimed a 3-0 victory over the Union Bobcats on Friday in John Day.

The Lady Pros won with scores of 25-12, 25-23 and 27-25.

Grant Union head coach Shae Speth said that after losing one set in their 3-1 win over the Imbler Panthers Thursday night, she knew this match would be a challenge.

"Union is a great defensive team, and we had to work to win the long rallies," Speth said.

"We figured Union would be one of the strongest teams in our league for us," she said. "They definitely started playing better, making some adjustments on our hitters in the second and third sets, but one of our goals has been to win those close games."

Grant Union setter Hailie Wright said it was a good, steady win.

"We knew Union was going to be tough competition, and it was important to win," she said.

Grant Union handled their opponents well in the first set. The second and third sets made the match a nail-biter, with the lead changing several times.

"We were down in both of them, and so to be able to fight back and still come out with a win in three — I'm proud of the girls," Speth said. "After a tough match last night, to come back and play strong today was good."

The Prospectors are 18-1 overall and 4-0 in the league with a goal of becoming league champions.

Middle blocker Kaylee Wright said she was happy with the outcome of the night's game.

"They were a really good team, and we knew they would be tough," she said. "We could have beat them by so much more. A lot of good things came out of it. It's a good win toward our league title."

On Tuesday, Sept. 26, Grant Union hosted La Grande.

The Prospectors won 3-1 with scores of 25-14, 26-28, 25-14 and 25-20.

"This was a good match

against a strong 4A team," Speth said. "La Grande plays pretty good defense and has a couple of very strong hitters. We definitely had to work to win long rallies and score points."

Prospector outside hitter Mariah Moulton had 12 digs, was 100 percent serve-serve on 32 attempts, had six aces and 22 kills.

Prospector Reagan Shelley had one of her best matches offensively with seven kills, two block assists and seven digs.

Grant Union also overcame a tough start on the road Thursday against Imbler.

The Prospectors came out victorious in the league match 3-1 with scores of 26-24, 23-25, 25-21 and 25-14.

"We never seemed to get into a good flow offensively against Imbler," Speth said. "The match definitely tested our ability to stay mentally tough and focused."

On Saturday, Oct. 7, Grant Union faces Enterprise and Elgin on the road, with the first match at noon in Enterprise and the second at 5 p.m. in Elgin.

Speth said her team serves aggressively and often forces their opponents out of system, but moving forward into the second half of the season, they'll need to work to reduce service errors and improve their performance in other areas.

Grant Union vs. La Grande stats:
 Alcie Moore: 11 digs
 Mariah Moulton: 12 digs, 100 percent serve-serve on 32 attempts, 6 aces, 22 kills
 Trinity Hutchison: 2 block assists
 Taylor Allen: 4 kills, 2 aces, 100 percent serve-serve, 9 digs
 Reagan Shelley: 7 kills, 2 block assists, 7 digs
 Hailie Wright: 2 aces; 17 digs
 Sydney Brockway: 9 digs
 Whitney McClellan: 30 digs
 Kaylee Wright: 15 kills, 2 aces, 3 solo blocks

Grant Union vs. Imbler stats:
 Moore: 5 digs
 Moulton: 19 kills, 12 digs
 Hutchison: 2 solo blocks, 4 block assists, 2 kills
 Allen: 3 kills, 2 aces, 2 digs
 Shelley: 1 solo block, 2 block assists, 2 digs, 2 kills
 Hailie Wright: 3 kills, 3 aces, 2 block assists, 4 digs
 Brockway: 100 percent serve-serve, 2 digs
 McClellan: 4 aces, 21 digs
 Kaylee Wright: 5 aces, 6 kills, 1 solo block, 5 digs
 Shaine Madden: 2 aces, 2 digs

Grant Union vs. Union stats:
 Moore: 4 digs
 Moulton: 15 kills, 100 percent serve-serve, 17 digs
 Hutchison: 3 kills; 1 block assist; 4 digs
 Allen: 2 kills, 1 dig
 Shelley: 5 kills, 2 block assists
 Hailie Wright: 2 kills, 16 digs
 Brockway: 13 digs
 McClellan: 3 aces, 26 digs
 Kaylee Wright: 9 kills, 2 solo blocks, 1 block assist, 5 digs
 Madden: 1 kill, 2 digs



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter
Grant Union Prospector Sydney Brockway flies after the ball in Friday's game against Union.