

Lady Pros defend Wapiti League title

Wapiti district tourney is Oct. 21 in La Grande

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

In a show of tenacity, the Grant Union Prospectors volleyball team met last week's challenges, clinching the 2A-6 Wapiti League title.

The team is ranked No. 1 for 2A teams in the state.

Grant Union head coach Shae Speth said the entire team contributed to the effort as they swept both Imbler on Friday and Union on Saturday, earning the No. 1 seed for the Saturday, Oct. 21, 2A-6 Wapiti District Tournament in La Grande. The tournament is scheduled for 10 a.m. at Eastern Oregon University.

"One of our primary goals this season was to defend our Wapiti League title, and we accomplished that goal this weekend," said Speth. "Overall, we are becoming much more consistent serving and on serve-receive. Each athlete is making small adjustments right now that help contribute to our overall team success moving into the post season."

Grant Union, with a 21-1 overall re-



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Grant Union Prospectors Kaylee Wright prepares to pound the ball to the Imbler Panthers in Friday's homecoming game in John Day.

cord, moved to the top spot in league, 8-0, after last week's wins, and Union is second at 6-2.

Enterprise and Imbler are tied at 3-5 and had a playoff game on Tuesday, past press time. Elgin finished 0-8.

With Prospectors Mariah Moulton attacking with 16 kills, Grant Union claimed the victory over Union on the road Saturday with scores of 25-13, 25-11 and 25-17. Moulton also had no er-

rors on 33 attempts.

Kaylee Wright had eight kills and eight aces in the match.

"We came out playing great volleyball from the start and never let up," Speth said.

She said they played exceptionally well, both individually and as a team.

"Mariah had a fantastic game,

See TITLE, Page A16

TOP IMAGE: The Grant Union Prospectors clinched the 2A Wapiti League title after their 3-0 win Saturday, on the road, over the Union Bobcats.

Contributed photo

Lady Panthers gear up for Saturday's district tourney

Panthers compete at district Oct. 21

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Prairie City Panther volleyball team is gearing up for Saturday's 1A-8 High Desert District Tournament in John Day after a league loss and a win on the road last week.

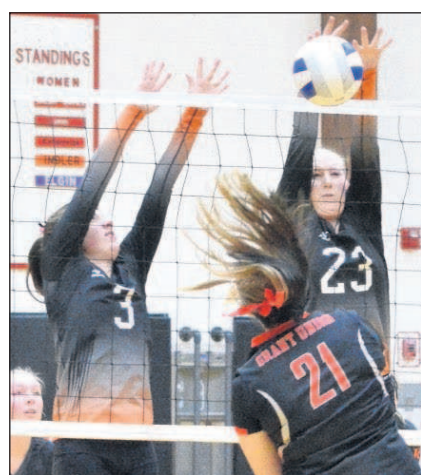
Prairie City fell 3-2 in a tight game against Crane Friday, then toppled Adrian 3-0 the following day.

On Friday, the Crane Mustangs won with scores of 25-20, 25-22, 12-25, 23-25 and 15-11.

Panther coach Louanne Zweygardt said it was an exciting match.

"We were very close in the first two sets, and then strong serving from Sierra Dahlen and Brianna Zweygardt gave us the momentum to really take over in the third," the coach said. "Sierra served eight in a row with several aces to finish out the set."

She said they kept their momentum up through the fourth, but too many errors in the fifth cost them the win.



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Prairie City Panthers Rilee Emmel (3) and Cassie Hire (23) go up for a block, facing Grant Union Prospectors Shaine Madden (21) in Thursday's game in John Day.

"It was a great confidence builder for the team and really carried over to Adrian the next day, when Brianna went on serving run and helped us gain the momentum to overcome Adrian in three," Zweygardt said.

Prairie City beat the Antelopes with scores of 25-19, 25-22 and 25-20.

In nonleague action Thursday, the Panther varsity team and the 2A junior varsity Grant Union Prospectors were tied at 23-23 in their third set. Prairie City overcame Grant Union for a 3-0 sweep with scores of 25-17, 25-19 and 25-23.

The Panthers now sit at fourth in league with an overall record of 15-6 and 4-3 in league.

"We are excited for the tournament and are really going to focus on all-around preparation for a long day of tough and exciting volleyball," Zweygardt said.

She said this week they'll focus on reducing errors and fine tuning their attack.

"We have improved a great deal, and I feel like we are really ready to take it to the next level of play," she said.

Prairie City vs. Crane

Brianna Zweygardt: 6 aces
Sierra Dahlen: 7 aces
Mariah McClung: 4 aces
Cassie Hire: 13 kills
Rilee Emmel: 5 kills

Prairie City vs. Adrian

Brianna Zweygardt: 8 aces, 4 kills
Cassie Hire: 5 aces, 4 kills
Katie Hire: 3 kills



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Grant Union Prospectors quarterback Wade Reimers breaks away en route to a touchdown, his teammate Ty McDaniel (60) in back.

Prospectors blow out Panthers in second half

Pros host Enterprise at 7 p.m. Friday

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

Ranked fifth in state, the 2A Grant Union Prospectors football team is focused on a goal of top place in the Wapiti League.

In their Friday homecoming game, Grant Union overcame a slow start to claim a 68-16 win over the Imbler Panthers, setting the second half on fire despite the snow and chill.

Imbler slid past Grant Union for a safety and increased their early lead with a fourth down touchdown on their next possession, adding the two-point conversion for a 10-0 lead in the first quarter.

Grant Union progressed with three first downs in a row. Then quarterback Wade Reimers connected with receiver Zack Deiter to add their first points to the board.

Imbler led 10-6 going into the second.

After an incomplete pass brought a fourth down, Reimers kept the ball for a 20-plus-yard run to score, also gaining the two-point conversion with a keeper.

Ryan Patterson then scored for Imbler, giving the Panthers a two-point lead, 16-14.

Imbler then recovered an inside kick to take back possession of the ball. The move didn't sit well with the Prospectors.

Grant Union stalled Im-



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Grant Union Prospectors Kellen Shelley grabs the pass from quarterback Wade Reimers and scores a two-point conversion.

bler's offense with plays including a sack from linebacker Drew Lusco.

The Prospectors took the lead going into halftime when Reimers connected with Deiter to score, and the two-point conversion made it 22-16.

The Pros found their spark after a pep talk from head coach Jason Miller during halftime.

"I just asked them if they're a good team or a great team," Miller said. "I said, 'I'm not mad at you. I'm just disappointed in the way we played our first half - lack of focus, lack of effort - and you change it or you don't.'"

The home team took the

See FOOTBALL, Page A16



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The Grant Union defense was tough against Imbler. Prospectors Elijah Humbird nabs a forced fumble from Imbler's Jayce Burnette. On the left is Cameron Hallgarth and in back is Drew Lusco. No. 7 is Imbler's Chance Goodman.



Contributed photo

A Rally for the Cure golf scramble team wears "Rosie the Riveter" T-shirts for Saturday's event at the John Day Golf Club. From left, Jeanette Hueckman, Kimberly Ward, Janie Brosemahaffey and Jody Helgerson.

Women 'rally' to fight for cure

Blue Mountain Eagle

"The day was filled with love, laughter and a few tears."

Kimberly Ward,

Rally for the Cure Golf Scramble and Auction organizer

Two teams tied to win Saturday's Rally for the Cure Golf Scramble and Auction in John Day.

A total of \$3,000 in proceeds will benefit the Susan G. Komen, Oregon and SW Washington groups, breast cancer organization.

The winners were Ronda Pade, Natalie Riley, Ashley May and Lynda Farrell, also Kimberly Ward, Jeanette Hueckman, Janie Brosemahaffey and Jody Helgerson.

There were 32 golfers in all. The winner of the Chip contest was Cheri Rassmussen, and winning the KP contest was Judy Martin.

"The day was filled with love, laughter and a few tears," said organizer Kimberly Ward.

She said one of her favorite moments of the day was the balloon launch.

"This is a time where golfers

can honor loved ones that have passed from breast cancer or anyone going through cancer or any horrible disease," she said. "It's a very moving and emotional time."

"It's our part in fighting for a cure and doing all we can," Ward said. "Thank you to all the golfers who came out to fight for a cure and increase awareness."