

STATE

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"But they'll make adjustments, and it will be another tough match. Championship matches always are."

The Prairie City girls started out strong in the first set, but Adrian caught up and prevailed, 26-24. The Panthers raced ahead in the second set, leading early on 7-1, thanks to strong serving by Brianna Zwegardt, and took the set, 25-16.

Several tie scores and lead exchanges in the third set were followed by confusion over player rotation by Prairie City and a yellow card violation. Adrian won the set, 25-20, leaving the Antelopes one set away from a championship.

The fourth set saw close back-and-forth play, with the score tied at 22 apiece when Prairie City called a timeout. Adrian errors gave the Panthers a 24-22 lead, and Zwegardt's block at the net sealed the victory, 25-22.

The girls had been playing volleyball since 9 a.m., and it was past 5 p.m. when the final set concluded, after a wild and



Prairie City's Rilee Emmel hits the ball in the championship match against Adrian in the 2017 High Desert League Volleyball Tournament.

The Eagle/Richard Hanners

terrific exchange. The Panthers were ahead 9-7 when Adrian rallied and tied the score at nine all. The Prairie City girls regrouped after a timeout and moved ahead, 12-10.

But the Antelopes were not finished, tying the set at 13-13. A battle royal ensued, with neither team giving an inch, until Prairie City persevered and pulled off the win, 20-18.

Coach Zwegardt credited

the girls' success to 90 percent serving with 15 percent aces. Panther senior Rilee Emmel, who was named to the All-Tournament Second Team, served 95 percent overall with 12 aces out of 56 serves for the day. Freshman Samantha Workman served 97 percent with five aces.

Powerhouses at the net and artful at the digs and passes, seniors Cassie Hire and Brianna Zwegardt were named to the All-Tournament First Team. Zwegardt was also named Player of the Year and Setter of the Year First Team All-League. Hire was also named to the First Team All-League. Senior Sierra Dahlen was named Second Team All-League, and Emmel and junior Emily Ennis received Honorable Mention.

"There was a lot of com-

petition at the tournament this year," coach Zwegardt said. "Our girls worked hard in practice on skills and game plans that coaches laid out the week leading to the tournament. They were able to execute and deliver in every match on Saturday, and it paid off with a district championship."

He gave much of the credit to the team's new assistant coach, Jordan Bass.

"She has brought a tremendous amount of knowledge and experience to the Panther program," he said.

Next up for the Panthers is the second round of the state volleyball tournament on Saturday, time and location to be determined. The quarterfinals and finals will be played the following weekend in Redmond.



Contributed photos/Elizabeth Shelley

Grant Union's volleyball team poses with the trophy after winning the Wapiti League Championship Oct. 21 in La Grande.

DISTRICT

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"Moving forward into state, we are working on individual adjustments to continue our success as a team - making sure our defensive positioning is strong, and our offense is consistent."

Moulton was named All-League Player of the Year. McClellan, Kaylee Wright and Hailie Wright were named All-League First Team. Brockway was named All-League Second Team, and Shelley and Hutchison were honorable mentions. Speth was named Wapiti League Coach of the Year.

"Rankings freeze tonight at 10, so we won't know officially who we play until Wednesday morning," Speth told the Eagle on Tuesday. "But it will be at home, likely early afternoon on Saturday, Oct. 28, against Myrtle Point."

The final eight will play at Ridgeview High School in Redmond on Nov. 3.



Wapiti League Player of the Year Mariah Moulton serves at the league tournament Oct. 21, where the team defeated Imbler in the championship.

**the corner's HOT SHOT OF THE WEEK**

**MARIAH MOULTON**  
**School:** Grant Union  
**Grade:** 12  
**Parent:** Jody Moulton  
**Sport:** Volleyball  
**Position:** Outside hitter

**What I like best about my sport:** "I like all the girls that I play with and being the team to beat this year. It should be our year to win state."

**Coach's Comment:** "Mariah is a four-year varsity starter as an outside hitter. It has been a true pleasure to watch her develop into such a skilled volleyball athlete, both offensively and defensively. She is competitive and driven, and determined to meet individual and team goals."  
*-Coach Shae Speth*

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FOOTBALL

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run after that. The point-after attempt failed. The Outlaw run game picked up, as they drove to the 20-yard line, but the Grant Union defense held them to four-and-out, leaving it 44-0 at the half.

Enterprise had another chance to score early in the third quarter after recovering a Prospector fumble, but the Outlaws couldn't move the ball. Freshman running back Logan McCluskey then ran 20 yards for a touchdown for Grant Union, and Shelley ran in the extra points for a 52-0 lead.

The Outlaws marched down field, but Grant Union held them at the 15-yard line as the third quarter ended. In their next possession, a Prospector fumble gave Enterprise the opportunity it needed to finally get on the board. The kick after, however, hit the goal post, leaving the score 52-6.

Grant Union sent in its JV after that to finish the game. The second string drove down field and made



Contributed photo/Elizabeth Shelley

Cameron Hallgarth (28) leads the way for Zack Deiter in Grant Union's game against Enterprise Friday.



Duane Stokes carries the ball for Grant Union in Friday's game against Enterprise.

it into the end zone only to have the play called back on a penalty.

The Prospectors totaled 522 offensive yards in 57 plays to the Outlaws' 112 yards. Grant Union gained 365 yards on the ground and 157 yards in the air, notching 20 first downs to the Outlaws' nine.

"I thought the players performed well. It is nice to see us executing in all three

phases of the game," coach Miller said. "On to Union to defend our league title."

The Prospectors' final regular season game is away against league opponent Union at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 27. The Bobcats are 1-1 in

league play after a 20-12 win over Imbler last week, and 1-6 overall.

Grant Union is now the fourth-ranked 2A team in the state, with a 2-0 Wapiti League record, 6-1 overall.

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