



Softball team hammers out four wins

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant Union Prospector softball girls extended their win streak to 7-0 after raking in four victories Friday and Saturday at the Riverside Tournament.

Grant Union is ranked No. 2 among OSAA's 3A teams, and they have a No. 1 RPI ranking.

"They're playing really good, they're working hard and now the key is to get better every day," said Prospector head coach Zach Williams. "The high ranking doesn't matter when you get on the field — you have to win."

Grant Union, finishing the tournament with a .500 batting average, won all their games in five innings, with the exception of their 8-6 battle against the 3A Irrigon Knights. The Prospectors made a comeback late in that contest for the win.

Grant Union was down 4-1 going into the bottom of the fifth when Prospector Whitney



Eagle file photo

Grant Union Prospector Cody Jo Madden pitches earlier this season against Lakeview.

McClellan led off with a bunt and reached base on an error.

There were two quick outs. Then Brianna Zwegardt hit a two-out single to score McClellan.

Madi McKrola followed up with a single, and Taylor Allen hit a double to score both Zwegardt and McKrola, tying the game.

Grant Union didn't stop there. After Prospectors Cody Jo Madden and Tressa Ran-

ft were each hit by a pitch, Shaïne Madden hit a single to score Allen and Cody Jo Madden. McClellan batted in Ranft with another single, giving Grant Union a 7-4 lead.

In the sixth, Irrigon scored 2, and in the bottom of the inning, Grant Union scored 1.

Zwegardt struck out two in the seventh, and a ground out to third base ended the game.

Cody Jo Madden pitched

the first three innings, with Mariah Moulton relieving in the fourth and fifth and Zwegardt finishing the game.

Grant Union had big wins over their other three opponents.

The Prospectors beat the 3A Riverside/Arlington Pirates, 19-5, with Cody Jo Madden pitching the first two innings and Moulton taking the circle for the final three. At the plate, Moulton was 4-5, Zwegardt was 3-4, Ranft was 3-5 and Cody Jo Madden was 3-5.

"(Riverside/Arlington's first pitcher was good," Williams said. "The girls just jumped on her and competed well at the plate."

Grant Union was too much for 2A Knappa, the Prospectors winning 23-1. Cody Jo Madden pitched two innings, Zwegardt relieved for innings three and four and Macy Strong pitched the final. Cody Jo Madden was 4-4 with four doubles, Moulton was 4-5, Hailie Wright was 4-5,

Zwegardt was 4-5, McKrola was 4-5 and McClellan was 2-4.

Grant Union shutout 3A Willamina 16-0. Moulton went 3-4, Wright 4-4, McKrola 2-3, Marissa Smith and Strong went 2-4 and McClellan was 2-3. Cody Jo Madden pitched the first three innings with Strong relieving in the final two.

"The girls are doing a great job, and they're having fun, and that's what we want to do," Williams said.

Grant Union hosts the 2A/1A Heppner/Ione Mustangs for a doubleheader at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Saturday in John Day.

Williams said the addition of Zwegardt, a Prairie City senior, to the team places them in the 3A class. Next year, they'll likely be in the 2A/1A class, he said.

The Mustangs are a closely matched team, ranked No. 5 with a 5-1 overall record.

"Heppner will be a good test," Williams said. "They beat Irrigon twice, and they beat Enterprise."

ALL-STATE 2A BASKETBALL HONORS



Contributed photo/Tanni Wenger Photography

Kaylee Wright
Co-Player of the Year
First team, guard
Grant Union, junior



Contributed photo/Tanni Wenger Photography

Hailie Wright
Honorable mention, guard
Grant Union, junior

Grant Union splits games hosting Les Schwab Tourney

Pros start league April 10 on the road against Elgin

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant Union Prospector baseball team took a win and a loss while hosting the March 29-31 Les Schwab Tournament at the Seventh Street Complex.

The Prospectors stayed ahead of the Oakland Oakers for a 6-3 win to start things off Saturday. Down one player to injury, Grant Union fell to the Monroe Dragons 5-3 in the afternoon.

Prospector Zack Deiter pitched against the Oakers. The Prospectors were up 4-0 before Oakland scored 1.

Grant Union was up 6-1 in the sixth. The Oakers threatened in the seventh, scoring 2 runs before Grant Union made the halt.

Grant Union head coach Dusty Williams said they played well against Oakland.

"Zack threw really well," he said. "Everybody did a really good job hitting and fielding."

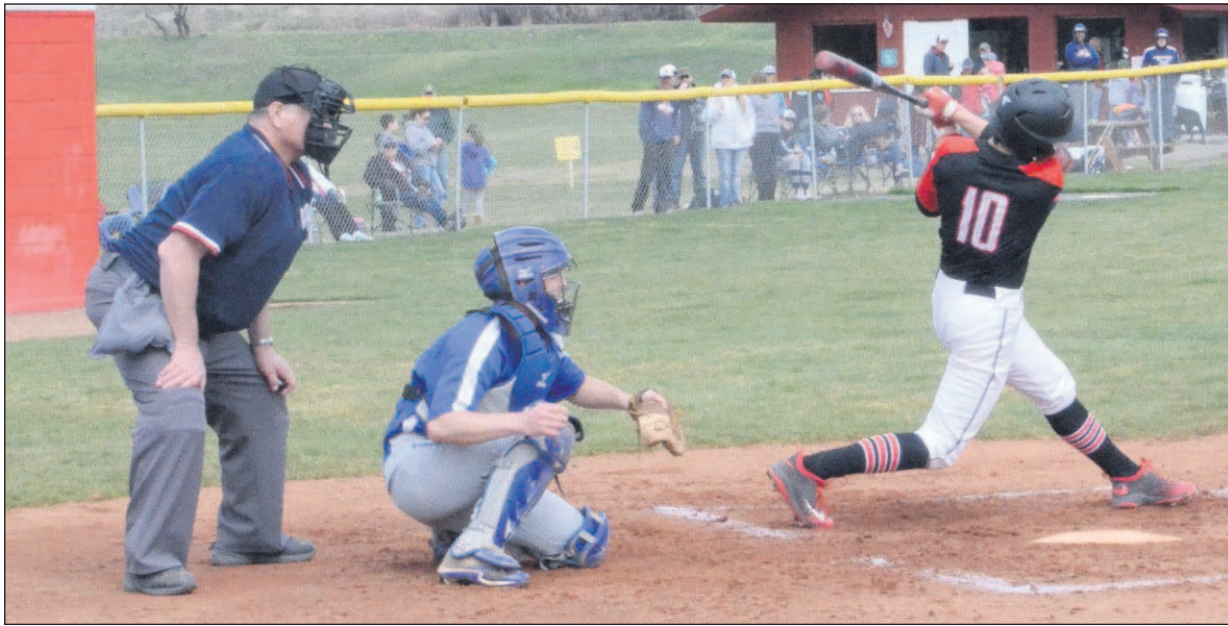
Grant Union lost Roen Langum to injury in the game. Williams said it's a big loss to the team, but the coach is hopeful Langum will be released to be a designated hitter. Grant Union has just 13 players on the team.

The Dragons made it a battle that afternoon.

Grant Union was behind until tying it up in the fifth, 3-3.

Monroe went up by 2 runs in the sixth, and held Grant Union off for the win.

"We had our opportunities to



The Eagle/Richard Hanners

Grant Union's Warner Robertson swings for the fence against Oakland during the March 31 Les Schwab Tournament.



The Eagle/Richard Hanners

Grant Union pitcher Zack Deiter winds up during a home game against Oakland.

score, but made a couple errors," Williams said. "We made some mental mistakes. We just need to clean

up and continue to work hard."

Taking the mound were Warner Robertson, Logan McCluskey and

Damion Young, the coach working to preserve his pitchers and stay within the required pitch count, while anticipating their game against 3A Burns Tuesday, past press time.

Williams said pitchers who've filled their count have to rest two days before taking the mound again.

"Burns has only one win on the year, against us early in the season," the coach said. "We're hoping to go over there and win."

Grant Union travels to Culver for a nonleague doubleheader Saturday with games at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Then, the Prospectors face the Elgin Huskies on the road, Tuesday, April 10, for their first league game of the season.

"We'll hopefully clean up some of the errors, and I think we can come out with a couple wins," Williams said.

86 participants 'hop to it' in Dayville

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

Dayville's fifth annual Bunny Hop 5K Walk and Run had the biggest turnout yet on Saturday, with 86 participants lacing up, along with the Easter Bunny, for the event.

Organized by Emma Winkelman, the Bunny Hop was made special this year by support shown for Dayville resident Cheryl Hubbard, who is battling esophageal cancer. Hubbard has worked as a Dayville School bus driver and educational assistant.

This year's 5K T-shirt design included the words "CH Strong," and the shirts were periwinkle, which is the color for esophageal cancer awareness.



Contributed photos

Cousins 8-month-old Hallie Jean Larson, left, and 1-year-old Everleigh Schmadeka enjoy the Dayville Easter Egg Hunt together.

"It was a special time to celebrate Cheryl and help her in this battle that she is currently undergoing,"

said city recorder Ruthie Moore, who assisted Winkelman.

Winner of the 0-13 age



Daniel Henry of Mt. Vernon won the Buddy the Elk award as the first to cross the finish line.

group was Daniel Henry, who also won the Buddy the Elk Award, including \$50, as the youth first-place

finisher. Ben Henry was the first-place finisher from the 14-26 age group; Brittany Desadier won the 27-49 division; and Linda Bowling won the 50+ division.

The Bunny Hop was followed by the Dayville Easter Egg Hunt, which Moore said was the largest gathering she's seen in many years with 75 participating.

Bunny Hop winners

- Age group 0-13**
Daniel Henry, 22:48
Hyatt Clark, 25:55
Katrine Bogardus, 25:56
- Age group 14-26**
Ben Henry, 22:34
Jesse Douglass, 24:25
Rico Sparka, 25:20
- Age group 27-49**
Brittany Desadier, 26:15
Daniel DesJardin, 26:29
Taylor Schmadeka, 29:46
- Age group 50+**
Linda Bowling, 27:11
Nancy Crisler, 32:48
Michael Johnston, 33:48

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Friday, April 6

Grant Union golf @ Pendleton Invitational at 8 a.m.

Prairie City and Long Creek track and field @ Prairie City Invitational at 11 a.m.

Grant Union and Monument/Dayville track and field @ Oregon Trail Invitational in Vale at 11 a.m.

Saturday, April 7

Grant Union baseball @ Culver (2) at 11 a.m., 1 p.m.

Grant Union softball vs. Heppner/Ione in John Day (2) at 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 10

Grant Union, Long Creek, Monument/Dayville, Prairie City track and field @ Grant Union Small Schools Meet in John Day at 3:30 p.m.

Grant Union baseball @ Elgin at 4 p.m.

Grant Union softball vs. Pilot Rock/Nixy-aawii at 4 p.m.