



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Prairie City's Levi Burke clears the high jump at 5-10 for second place at Friday's Prairie City invitational. See more photos at [myeaglenews.com](http://myeaglenews.com).

## Burke jumps to second place at Prairie City invitational

### Long Creek Mountaineers also compete

By Angel Carpenter  
 Blue Mountain Eagle

Prairie City's Levi Burke earned second place in high jump in his first time competing in the event at the Panthers' invitational Friday.

It was Burke's second track meet ever, and head coach Nate Barber said he expects Burke to continue to improve.

"He already has one of the best marks in the state at 5-10," Barber said, adding he expects Burke to eventually reach over 6 feet.

Burke said he's enjoying the sport. "I like the individual basis, and it's something you have to have a good technique," he said.

Prairie City hosted eight 1A teams and one 4A team, the Baker City Bulldogs. The Baker boys won with 206.5 points, followed by Powder Valley with 76.5. Crane and Joseph tied at 73 for third. Prairie City placed sixth with 43, and Long Creek placed ninth with 25.

The Baker girls won with 210, followed by Joseph with 98 and Crane with 77. Prairie City placed sixth with 42, and Long Creek placed eighth with 20.

Long Creek coach Linda Studtmann said all but two of her team members are new to the sport, either as freshmen or foreign exchange students.

"I think they did very well," she said. "We saw improvement in several of the athletes and most (set personal records) in at least one of their



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Prairie City's Hailee Wall, left, and Deja Amsden compete in the 100 hurdles on Friday.

**Prairie City boys**  
 Levi Burke: high jump, second, 5-10  
 Danner Davis: shot put, sixth, 33-05  
 Jake McHatton: shot put, seventh, 32-09  
 Jonathan Lawrence: 1500, fourth, 5:18.88  
 4x100: Prairie City, fifth, 49.05, Brandon Horrell, Jonathan Haskins, Tristan McMahan and Levi Burke  
 Tristan McMahan: triple jump, fifth, 35-07

**Prairie City girls**  
 Samantha Workman: pole vault, second, 6-06; long jump, fourth, 12-08.5; triple jump, fourth, 28-09  
 Hailee Wall: 100 hurdles, fourth, 21-70  
 Deja Amsden: 100 hurdles, eighth, 23-35; triple jump, sixth, 28-09

Haley Pfefferkorn: javelin, second, 101-10.5  
 Abbey Pfefferkorn: 100, sixth, 14.67; 200, sixth, 31.35

**Long Creek boys**  
 4x100: Long Creek, fourth, 48.51, Jaime Ballesteros, Luka Pesic, Kim Donggyu and Rafael Gumerato  
 James Kreamier: high jump, sixth, 5-04  
 Luka Pesic: javelin, fourth, 117-10.5; high jump, 11th, 5-0

**Long Creek girls**  
 Lucchese Douglas: 400, third, 1:12; discus, fifth, 69-02.75  
 Dorothea Johnson: long jump, third, 13-00.5; high jump, sixth, 3-0.5

events. They're observing as well and trying to figure out things they need to change to improve even more, so that's encouraging to see."

Prairie City's Haley Pfefferkorn, who placed second in javelin behind a Baker thrower, said it was a good meet, for their second outing.

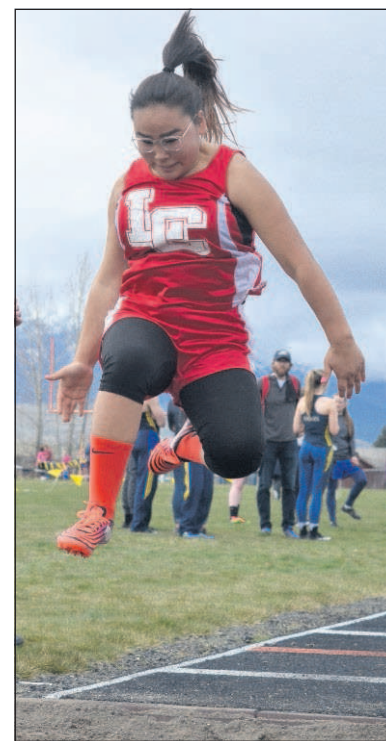
"I think, individually, everyone

did pretty well," she said of her team.

She thinks they'll show improvement by their next home meet, scheduled for Thursday, May 3.

Coach Barber said Hailee Wall and Deja Amsden both ran the hurdles well.

"Their timing is getting better," he said.



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Long Creek's Dorothea Johnson competes in the long jump.

"Samantha Workman did really well in the pole vault," he added. "It's been a while since we've had a girl compete, and it's nice to have coach Joe Hitz out to help."

"There were a lot of PRs (personal records) set today," said Rilee Emmel. "It's nice to have a home track meet."

Wall agreed.

"It was a nice day for a track meet and good competition," she said. "They really made us push ourselves."

## Grant Union outscores Heppner/Ione 23-0

By Angel Carpenter  
 Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant Union head coach Zach Williams said his team stayed disciplined in Saturday's doubleheader shutout of Heppner/Ione, the Prospectors winning with scores of 11-0 and 12-0, each in five innings.

"They were patient and swung at good pitches," he said.

Williams said his pitchers also performed well, with Cody Jo Madden pitching game one and Macy Strong and Mariah Moulton each taking the circle for game two.

"Cody Jo threw really well," he said. "She got ahead of hitters, hit her spots."

He added, "Macy and Mariah did the same thing. They got ahead and kept the ball down in the zone."

In game one, both teams were scoreless in the first two innings.

In the bottom of the third, Prospector Whitney McClellan doubled, then stole third while Moulton was at bat. Moulton also doubled, scoring McClellan.

Grant Union loaded the bases, but Heppner made the outs, leaving the Prospectors with a 1-0 lead.

In the fourth, Grant Union bats were on fire, adding five more runs.

McClellan doubled, sending Shaine Madden home.

Both McClellan and Tressa Ranft scored while Moulton was at bat.

Brianna Zweygardt doubled, sending the ball near the center field fence, to score Moulton and Hailie Wright.

Shaine Madden's single scored both Taylor Allen and Zweygardt, and Tiler Voigt scored Shaine Madden. Grant Union led 9-0 going into the fifth.

Grant Union ended the game when

Moulton singled and Hailie Wright hit a two-run home run.

In the second game, Grant Union was up 9-0 in the fourth.

The Prospectors ended the game with flair when Reagan Shelley singled, McClellan doubled and Moulton hit it over the fence for a three-run homer.

"We played well as a team," Wright said. "We hit well off a good pitcher and played defense."

Williams said his team's defensive strength secured the shutouts.

"They made routine plays routine," he said. "They're starting to hit their cut-off people and did what they needed to do to be a great defense."

Next up, Grant Union will host 2A Pilot Rock/Nixyaawii for a game on Tuesday past press time.

"They have a great program and are well coached — more competition and great games," Williams said.

## SPORTS SCHEDULE

### Thursday, April 12

Grant Union golf @ Heppner Invite in Echo at 11 a.m.

### Friday, April 13

Grant Union golf @ Hermiston Invitational at Big River Country Club at 11 a.m.

Long Creek, Monument/Dayville track and field @ Ranchers Invitational in Crane at 11 a.m.

Grant Union softball vs. Weston-McEwen/Griswold (2) at noon, 2 p.m.

### Saturday, April 14

Grant Union baseball vs. Elgin (2) at 11 a.m., 1 p.m.

Grant Union, Prairie City track and field @ Burns Lions Invitational in Burns at noon

Grant Union track and field qualifiers @ Meet of Champions at Willamette University in Salem at 11 a.m.

### Tuesday, April 17

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

Grant Union baseball vs. Pilot Rock/Nixyaawii/Ukiah at 4 p.m.

## Long Creek track and field stronger with each meet

By Angel Carpenter  
 Blue Mountain Eagle

Most of the Long Creek Mountaineer track and field team may be new to the sport, but they are making strides and learning as they go.

All of the team members also took part in playing basketball, the girls participated in volleyball and all the boys were members of Long Creek/Ukiah's soccer team, which went undefeated this school year.

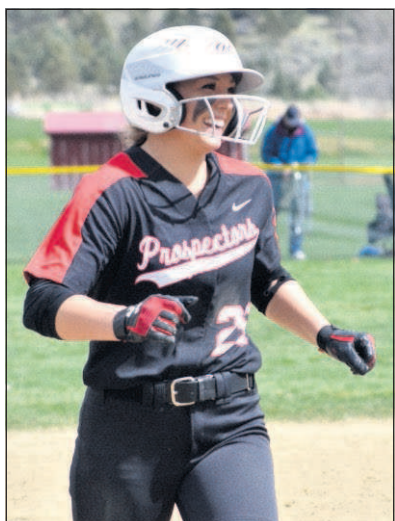
The team of six boys and five girls are picking up the techniques of their events quickly, said head coach Linda Studtmann. She said participating in other sports has been a benefit for the team.

"It helps keep you in shape and keeps your mind and body disciplined and in tune," she said.

"We saw improvement in several of the athletes, and most had personal records in at least one of their events," Studtmann said of their second competition of the season, Friday's Prairie City Invitational.

Long Creek School's grass and dirt track has just enough room for one and a half lanes, and until recently, one end of the track was muddy. Attending the Diana Thurmond Invitational on March 16 in Harper gave them their first opportunity to test their events on a paved track.

"We don't always have a meet before spring break," Studtmann said. "I wanted to try it because once they go to their first track meet, things



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Prospector Mariah Moulton rounds third base after hitting a three-run home run to end Grant Union's second game against Heppner/Ione 12-0.