



Grant Union ahead of the field at small schools meet



Grant Union's Donovan Smith, Monument/Dayville's Donovan Schafer and Grant Union's Quentin Hallgarth compete in the 200-meter dash.

- Top-three finishers**
- Grant Union boys**
 Duane Stokes: 100, first, 12:00; high jump, second, 5-00; triple jump, second, 37-07.50
 Taylor Hunt: 100, second, 12.49
 Tanner Elliott: 800, second, 2:29.36; 1,500, third, 5:32.64
 Jacob Smith: 1,500, second, 5:23.84
 Elisha Sheedy: 3,000, second, 12:40.61
 Jordan Hall: 110 hurdles, first, 18:76; long jump, third, 17-11; triple jump, first, 39-01
 Gage Brandon: 110 hurdles, second, 19:31; 300 hurdles, third, 51:55; pole vault, second, 8-00
 Drew Lusco: shot put, second, 39-00; discus, first, 116-06
 Mason Gerry: javelin, first, 143-09; long jump, first, 18-01
 Cameron Hallgarth: javelin, second, 132-01
 Braden Spencer: pole vault, first, 9-06
 4x100 relay, first, 47.64, with Taylor Hunt, Mason Gerry, Duane Stokes and Cayu Weaver
 4x400 relay, first, 4:12.60, with Quaid Brandon, Ben Henry, Braden Spencer and Donavan Smith
- Grant Union girls**
 Kaylee Wright: 100, first, 13.23; javelin, first, 125-00; high jump, first, 5-02.00
 Shanniyah Hall: 200, first, 29.70; 400, third, 1:09.29
 Alcie Moore: 400, second, 1:08.39
 Rylee Browning: 800, first, 2:51.42
 Rhea Mead: 1,500, second, 6:06.80; 3,000, second, 13:06.65
 Savannah Wyllie: 1,500, third, 6:24.18; 3,000, second, 14:15.09
 Sydney Brockway: 100 hurdles, first, 17.26; long jump, second, 15-11
 Erika Dickens: 300 hurdles, third, 1:06.12
 Jozie Rude: shot put, first, 37-04.50; discus, second, 95-08; pole vault, first, 9-06.00
 Abby Lusco: discus, first, 95-11
 Sarah Barker: pole vault, third, 5:06.00
 Trinity Hutchison: long jump, first, 15-11; triple jump, first, 32-01.50
 4x100, first, 53:12, with Sydney Brockway, Trinity Hutchison, Sierra Cates and Kaylee Wright
 4x400, first, 5:06.25, with Rylee Browning, Sierra Cates, Shanniyah Hall and Alcie Moore
- Prairie City boys**
 Tristan McMahan: 100, third, 12.56; 200, first, 25.58
 Jonathan Lawrence: 1,500, first, 5:15.18
 Jake McHatton: shot put, third, 34-07
 Levi Burke: high jump, first, 5-10; triple jump, third, 35-04
- Prairie City girls**
 Abbey Pfefferkorn: 200, third, 30.57
 Megan Camarena: shot put, second, 32-10.50
 Haley Pfefferkorn: javelin, third, 99-10
 Samantha Workman: pole vault, second, 6-06; long jump, third, 13-06.50; triple jump, second, 29-11
 Deja Amsden: triple jump, third, 28-00
 4x100 relay, third, 58.69, with Rilee Emmel, Hailee Wall, Deja Amsden and Abbey Pfefferkorn
- Long Creek boys**
 Rafael Gumerato: 200, second, 25.96; high jump, second, 5-00
 Jaime Ballesteros: 300 hurdles, second, 51.06
 Luka Pesic: javelin, third, 123-10; high jump, second, 5-00
 James Kreamier: long jump, second, 18-00.50
 4x100 relay, second, 48.72, with Jaime Ballesteros, Luka Pesic, Kim Donggye and Rafael Gumerato
- Long Creek girls**
 Lucchese Douglas: 400, fifth, 1:16.36
- Monument/Dayville boys**
 Mark Thomas: 400, second, 57.02; 3,000, first, 10:33.48
 Gabe Walker: 300 hurdles, first, 50.15
 Donovan Schafer: discus, third, 106-03
- Monument/Dayville girls**
 Faythe Schafer: 200, second, 30.17; 400, first, 1:06.67
 Kyla Emerson: 100 hurdles, second, 18.36; 300 hurdles, first, 56.33



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter
Grant Union Prospecter Logan McCluskey pitches in game two Saturday against Elgin.

Grant Union boys battle Elgin 2-1 to start league

Prospectors face Rockets on the road Saturday

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant Union's league baseball opener was everything the Prospectors had hoped, defeating the Elgin Huskies April 10 with a 9-0 shutout in John Day.

Prospector head coach Dusty Williams was pleased with the win, but said he knew the Huskies, led by head coach Gregg Luse, would be ready to play "a little tougher" in Saturday's home doubleheader.

Elgin won game one 2-0. Then Grant Union battled back for an 8-7 win in game two Saturday.

In the second game, Grant Union was down 6-2 when they made a comeback in the sixth inning.

Prospector Warner Robertson doubled. Then Damion Young singled, scoring Robertson.

Both Russell Hodge and Logan McCluskey were walked. With leadoff hitter Zack Deiter up to bat and the bases loaded, Elgin switched pitchers.

Deiter was hit by a pitch, scoring Young. Then Jacob Vaughan doubled for two RBIs and tied up the game 6-6.

When Ty McDaniel walked, and Roen Langum, one of Grant Union's top hitters, came up to bat, Elgin again switched pitchers.

Langum singled to score Deiter and Vaughan for an 8-6 lead. McCluskey, on the mound for the Prospectors, struck out Elgin's first batter of the seventh, before things became dicey as Elgin loaded the bases, and a walk scored one run.

McCluskey, who relieved Robertson in the third, neared his pitch-count limit and was relieved by Hodge who finished out the game.

A double play, with a flurry of action, ended the game. After a force out at second base, the runner from first was called for interference.

"The kid running from first to second has to either vacate the baseline, or he has to slide," Williams said. "Now, he didn't slide, which is fine, but he also didn't vacate the baseline to give the defense a clear path to throw the ball. He stayed in the base path running ... so that (other) runner is automatically out at first base."

Williams said he was pleased with McCluskey's pitching. "He threw a heck of a game for us," the coach said. "For a freshman coming into a tight situation, he did a really good job."

McCluskey said he was pleased with the 8-7 win. "I think we played a lot better in the second game," he said. "We executed plays better."

Williams said Elgin's pitcher from Saturday's game one loss is likely to earn all-state honors this season.

"We hit the ball pretty hard today," Williams said. "The first game, we hit the ball hard — it was just right at them. It was one of those games where you hit the ball, but you don't find the hole. It's just the way baseball goes. The second game, we started out throwing the ball around a little bit, had a few errors in the infield — didn't help our pitching out at all. We battled

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Wright wins all four of her events

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

The larger Grant Union teams overpowered the smaller schools at the April 10 Grant Union small schools track meet in John Day.

The Grant Union boys won with 266.25 points, followed by Prairie City with 76, and Long Creek with 66. Mitchell-Spray was close behind with 61.25, Monument/Dayville with 43.5 and Ione with 43.

The Grant Union girls won with 259 points, followed by Ione with 100 and Prairie City with 70. Mitchell-Spray earned 61 points, followed by Monument/Dayville with 45 and Long Creek with 23.

Grant Union Prospecter head coach Sonna Smith said freshman Jordan Hall on the boys team set personal records in all three of his events. He placed first in the triple jump with a mark of 17-11 and first in hurdles with a time of 18.76.

Grant Union senior Duane Stokes competed in the 100-meter dash for the first time and won with a time of 12 seconds.

For the Prospecter girls, Kaylee Wright won all of her events — the 100, javelin, high jump and 4x100.

Jozie Rude set a season record in pole vault, reaching a height of 9-06. She also won shot put and was second in discus and javelin.



Grant Union's Kaylee Wright throws javelin, placing first at the April 10 small schools meet in John Day.



Prairie City's Danner Davis sets a personal record in shot put, placing fourth at the Grant Union small schools meet.

Abby Lusco set a personal record in discus, earning first place with a mark of 95-11.

Smith said her team had a hard workout the previous day in preparation for the Meet of Champions at Wilamette University in Salem Friday, where qualifying athletes competed.

Long Creek head coach Linda Studtmann was pleased with the effort she was seeing from her team. "They are getting more comfortable with their events," she said.

Rafael Gumerato and Luka Pesic competed for second place in the boys high jump with 5-00, also tying with Mitchell-Spray's Isaiah Matney.

Pesic set personal records in both the high jump and javelin, where he placed third with a mark of 123-10.

Several Monument/Dayville athletes set personal

records, including Mark Thomas in the 3,000, Gabe Walker in the 300 hurdles and Donovan Schafer in discus, shot put and triple jump.

For the Monument/Dayville girls, Faythe Schafer had personal records in the 200 and discus, and Aubrey Bowlus in shot put and discus. Kyla Emerson had a first-place finish in the 300 hurdles.

Prairie City head coach Nate Barber said several of his athletes performed well. "Tristan McMahan ran his sprints really well, and won the 200," Barber said. "He's a lot stronger this year."

McMahan set a personal record in the 200 with a time of 25.58.

Danner Davis set a personal record in discus, placing fourth.

Competing in high jump for the second time, Levi Burke placed first at a height of 5-10.

Samantha Workman set a personal record in both the triple jump, where she placed second, and the long jump, where she placed third. Teammate Deja Amsden placed third in the triple jump with a personal record. "They're all settling in with the events they want to do, and they're working hard," Barber said.

"We have to have a good week of practice with Burns coming up," he added. "It's good to compete with the bigger schools — it keeps them hungry and humble."

Smith said she was happy to have many local volunteers helping with events. "They helped everything run smoothly," she said.

Grant Union will compete at the Pepsi Invitational at 11 a.m. Saturday in Union. Prairie City, Long Creek and Monument/Dayville will compete at 11 a.m. Friday at the Condon/Wheeler Invitational in Condon.

Basketball battle supports Special Olympics

Special Olympians crush Law Enforcement on the court

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant County Special Olympics Unified and Grant County Law Enforcement teams battled on the basketball court Tuesday, April 3, in a fun, family event.

The teams made it a close first half. Then the Special Olympics team pulled away for a 37-18 win.

"Clearly, we didn't bring our A game," said Oregon State Police Sgt. Tom Hutchison with a smile. "They were prepared."

He added, "It's just a great group, and it's fun to get out here and see their excitement."

A large crowd showed up to cheer on the teams and support

the Special Olympics program. "Seeing Liz (Elizabeth Swarthout) dance after scoring made my heart melt," said Kathy Jo Gill. "I absolutely enjoy the time with the athletes and watching them play and the smiles on their faces. It's a great experience for everyone."

Gill and Deronda Lallatin are the Special Olympics local program coordinators.

Each of the Special Olympians received loud applause when they scored.

"Everything was my favorite part," Swarthout said. "My whole team is awesome."

Special Olympian Jay Colson said he enjoyed auctioning off

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The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

The Grant County Special Olympics Unified and Grant County Law Enforcement teams gather after Tuesday's game at Grant Union Junior-Senior High School in John Day. From left, Deronda Lallatin, Brian McKrola (21), David Gill, Eddie Humbird, Katie Shockley, Sgt. Tom Hutchison, Rodney Brunson (2), Jay Colson, Parker Neault (30), David Hoeffner, Deputy Tyler Smith (22), Chaplain Randy Johnson, Kimberly Neault, Elizabeth Swarthout (12), Jason Leighton (back), Jamie McKay, Sam Palmer (10), Deputy Brandon Hutchison, Crystal Wimberly (40), Charley Fronapel (20) and, in front, Josiah Hoeffner and Caleb Madsen.