

SEASON

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Moulton doubled in the bottom of the inning, sending Wright home, then Zwegardt hit the 2-run homer for a 4-1 lead.

Clatskanie scored 2 runs in the fourth, but left two runners on base, then led 5-4 after scoring 2 more runs in the fifth.

Grant Union tied the score in the sixth 5-5, when Wright singled, sending Strong home.

Strong caught for the first out of the seventh. Then the Tigers scored and one was walked.

After a 30-minute lightning delay, Clatskanie came back to score another run.

The Tigers had a 7-5 lead when another lightning delay was followed by a heavy downpour, and the game was

paused until Saturday morning.

Williams said he'd experienced rainouts before, but nothing like this game.

"To go home, sleep on it, think about it, and think of how your season will end if you don't get 2 runs in one inning is rough," he said. "These girls came back ready to go this morning — just felt committed and ready to go."

Madden came in to pitch, picking up where the game left off.

"She threw a drop ball on the inside corner, then a change up down in the zone for a swinging strike, then hanging to the outside corner again for strike three with a drop ball," Williams said. "Then Bri comes up and hits a home run, just how I thought about it."

But the Tigers were able to

field the final outs of the game.

Williams said the Tigers are young with six starting freshmen, and are a well-coached team.

"The girls have been playing ASA travel ball together since they were 7 — those freshmen didn't play like freshmen at all," he said. "The pitcher threw low to mid-60s which is collegiate-level speed."

Williams said his team played hard and never gave up. "It's a great group of girls," he said. "They deserve better. I wish things would have ended differently."

He added, "Softball's a great game because it's a team sport, and you've gotta put the whole thing together. You've got to play every pitch every inning all game long. Little things add up to big things, and these girls fought hard,

and we had some great senior leaders."

This year's seniors were Madden, Zwegardt (a Prairie City student athlete), McClellan, Moulton, Tressa Ranft and Reagan Shelley.

Williams said he felt they were competitive enough for the state title as a 3A team.

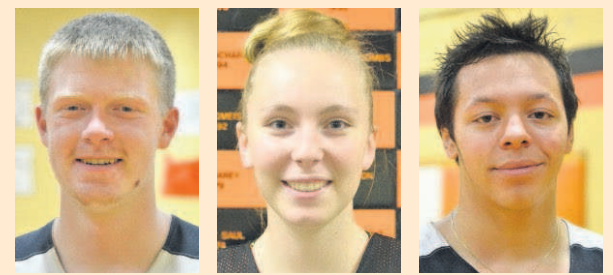
Next year, they'll drop to the 2A class.

"We'll have good teams," he said. "We're always going to put out a competitive team because we're going to work hard."

Madden, who was Pitcher of the Year for Special District 2, said her team had an awesome season.

"It was a season other teams only dream about, with only two losses," she said. "I want to wish the best of luck to the underclassmen the rest of their high school ball years."

PRAIRIE CITY 1A BASKETBALL ALL-STATE HONORS



Levi Burke Junior, first team

Brianna Zwegardt Senior, second team

Dorran Wilson Senior, first team Co-Player of the Year



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Grant Union head coach Casey Hallgarth instructs his team in practice earlier this year, including, from left, Fallon Weaver, Makenna Culley, Kaylee Wright and Marissa Smith.

Basketball coach and player to participate in All Stars

Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant Union Prospector girls basketball head coach Casey Hallgarth was selected to coach at the 2018 Senior All-Star Series.

Hallgarth, one of three coaches, will coach the East All Stars, and Grant Union basketball player senior Mariah Moulton was selected to play on one of the teams at the series, scheduled for Friday and Saturday, June 15-16, at West Salem High School.

The teams are composed

of outstanding senior players from Oregon's 2A, 3A, and 4A OSAA divisions. Each division will be combined to include players from all regions of the state, north, south, east and west.

Hallgarth led the Prospectors to fourth place at the state championship tournament this year.

It was his first and final year as head of the girls varsity team, as Hallgarth will take a position in Prairie City next school year as the district superintendent/principal.

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

**KAYLEE WRIGHT**  
School: Grant Union  
Grade: 11  
Parents: Kelsy Wright and Raelynn Cearns  
Sport: Track and Field  
Events: Javelin, high jump, 100-meter dash and 4x100 relay

**What I like best about my sport:** "I love competing and showing people that I love the sport. My teammates are really encouraging, and they bring out the best in my abilities."

**Coach's Comment:** "Kaylee has three state titles in track and field. She has consistently done the work she needs to do to be ready to compete at a high level. She finished district with a hamstring strain and rehabbed all week to be ready for state, and it paid off. I am honored to be her coach."  
-Coach Sonna Smith

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WIN

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relieved in the fifth and Brianna Zwegardt closed it in the seventh.

"Cody, as she always does, gave us a great opportunity by coming out and throwing strikes and getting ahead of hitters and getting outs," Williams said.

A team effort in the top of the third left three Pirates on base. Prospector first baseman Macy Strong caught for an out, and then Riverside loaded the bases. Right fielder Taylor Allen caught for an out, and Tressa Ranft, at center, followed for the final out of the inning.

Grant Union came back to life in the bottom of the fifth after a lull in offense.

Zwegardt singled to score Hailie Wright, to give the Prospectors a 3-0 lead.

In the sixth, Wright doubled, sending Madi McKrola and Strong home, and Zwegardt again singled for another RBI, with Wright making it home. This brought the score to 6-0.

Zwegardt finished things off in the seventh with two

strikeouts, and Strong also caught for an out.

"We played solid defense, we hit the ball OK and pitched well," Williams said. "They all did a good job."

He said some of the girls struggled in the lineup.

"That's a tough pitcher," Williams said. "That's the thing with Riverside, that girl's certainly a No. 1 pitcher — she's a good thrower. We knew how it was going to be — we had to hit the ball — if we put it in play hard, we could win that game."

Moulton said she was glad to see a big local crowd out for the game.

"We came to play and just grinded it out," she said. "I was super happy to see everyone show up."

McClellan said the team is excited.

"I knew we could get this far, so now we just need to play like we can," she said, looking forward to their quarterfinal match against Clatskanie. "Each at-bat someone was getting good hits and powering through."

The win advanced Grant Union to the state quarterfinal match against the Clatskanie Tigers.

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