

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Tigers rush for win over Panthers

The Dayville/Monument Tigers had the upper hand in their home debut Friday over the Prairie City Panthers, the Tigers taking a 27-12 win in Dayville.

One of Dayville/Monument's four touchdowns was made when Tiger JT Hand caused a Prairie City fumble with Mark Thomas scooping it up for a 65-yard touchdown run for the Tigers.

Dayville/Monument led 14-0 at the half and was up 21-0 on the first series in the third quarter.

Hand threw for two touchdowns with 154 yards passing.

Tiger Gabe Walker-Hopkins caught a touchdown pass for 70 yards and also had a rushing touchdown. He had 50 yards rushing and 75 yards receiving.

Donovan Schafer had 50 yards receiving.

Prairie City got in on scoring action in the fourth with two touchdowns.

Dayville/Monument head coach Kyle Hand said the league matchup was a competitive one.

"It was a great game for a coach because younger kids got playing time," he said.

He said Prairie City, led by head coach Nate Barber, is a well-coached team.

"I can see good things from them in the near future," Hand said.

Dayville/Monument will host the Echo Cougars at 1 p.m. Friday in Monument.

Barber said Friday's score would have been closer without the turnover and said his team limited their mistakes for a better second half.

He said several players helped on the offensive side of the ball, in-

cluding Bladin Burrell, Jake McHutton, Declan Zwegardt and Jonathan Lawrence.

Zwegardt and Lawrence both had receiving touchdowns.

McHutton, Zwegardt and Connor Jones were also in on tackles, the coach said.

"(Quarterback) Jayden Winegar showed a lot of growth from last year," Barber said. "His arm is stronger and his accuracy has improved."

Barber said they'll be ready for their next game when they host the Harper Hornets at 7 p.m. Friday.

Prairie City sweeps Dayville in first league volleyball battle

The Prairie City Panthers conquered the Dayville/Monument Tiger 3-0 Friday in Dayville, but the Tigers gave them a run for their money in the second set.

The Panthers won with scores of 25-9, 25-21 and 25-14.

Prairie City head coach Jordan Bass said her team is "ready for anything" when it comes to competing with Dayville/Monument.

"They usually are a scrappy team, so we were really ready for whatever they would throw at us," Bass said. "We controlled our side well, and our girls stayed high energy."

She added, "I think the girls getting their first league win was a good start, and it gave them some excitement going forward."

Dayville/Monument head coach Kristi Emerson said they were making a comeback in the second set, but couldn't quite pull it off.

"The girls had great serves, but they got a little down on themselves a couple times and took some time to get back in the game," Emerson said, adding they have some simple things



Contributed photo/Emily Kokesh

Prairie City Panther Katie Hire (2) sets the ball for Hailee Wall (5) in their match against the Dayville/Monument Tigers Saturday at the Panthers' home tournament.

to work on in practice.

Prairie City hosts 10 for volleyball tourney

Prairie City hosted 10 teams at a home tournament on Saturday with Adrian taking the win over Echo in the championship match.

The Panthers beat Dayville/Monument in the consolation bracket semifinals with scores of 25-21 and 25-18, but they ran out of time for a final match with Imbler.

Bass said she was pleased with her junior varsity swingers, including Caitlin Willet, Aries Bice and Jessi Nolan, who were in on Friday and Saturday's competitions.

"They're going to see more court time this week, and that's encouraging to me to see that we have some depth," Bass said, adding her starting six are also stepping up, playing well together and improving.

Next up, Prairie City hosts the Harper Hornets at 5 p.m. Friday.

Dayville/Monument went 1-1 against Echo and 2-0 against Harper in pool play at the tournament.

"All day Saturday our serves

were good," Emerson said.

Dayville/Monument faces Grant Union's junior varsity team at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 5, in John Day.

"We'll work on position, coverage, teamwork and confidence," Emerson said. "They have good hearts and lots of spirit, we've got to play to our full potential —110 percent to the end."

Grant Union volleyball goes 2-1 in match series

The 2A Grant Union Prospector volleyball team competed in a series of matches Saturday in Hesperia.

The Prospectors beat 1A Crane 3-0 with scores of 25-23, 25-13 and 25-20. Grant Union also beat 2A Vernonia 3-0 with scores of 25-19, 25-14 and 27-25.

In their match against 2A Portland Christian, Grant Union took a 0-3 loss with scores of 18-25, 12-25 and 20-25.

"This weekend was a definite step towards progress for us," said Grant Union head coach Ali Abrego. "Our girls worked together well and were able to build off of the momentum in crucial times."

Abrego said junior Hailie Wright performed well with her sets and defensive saves, and senior Trinity Hutchison led with blocks.

Freshman Grace Taylor transitioned smoothly playing with the upperclassmen, and junior Taylor Allen had "awesome" serving runs, the coach said.

Grant Union faced the La Grande Tigers on the road Tuesday, past press time, and will compete at the Les Schwab Tournament in Reedsport at 10 a.m. Saturday.

Prospectors fall to Loggers in first game of season

The Grant Union Prospectors faced tough competition in their first game of the season Friday, taking a 26-6 loss to the Knappa Loggers in Astoria.

In his first start as a varsity quarterback, Knappa junior Eli Takalo threw three touchdown passes in the first half and ran for another in the fourth quarter to lead the Loggers.

Takalo had a 15-yard TD toss to Kanai Phillip to open the scoring in the second quarter, then added a pair of 11-yard scoring passes to Devin Hoover and Kayden Stuhr for a 20-0 halftime lead. He scored on a 40-yard run midway through the second half, before the Prospectors scored a late touchdown to avoid the shutout.

Knappa recovered four fumbles in the game.

Prospector coach Jason Miller could not be reached for comment by press time.

Grant Union hosts the defending state champions, the Monroe Dragons, at 6 p.m. Friday at Three Flags Field.

Long Creek/Ukiah loses 2-3 to Burnt River

The Long Creek/Ukiah volleyball team lost 2-3 to the Burnt River Bulls on Thursday with scores of 21-25, 25-17, 25-16, 24-26 and 9-15.

Coach Linda Studtmann could not be reached for comment by press time.

Long Creek/Ukiah faces Mitchell/Spray at 5 p.m. Friday in Spray.

SPORTS SCHEDULE**Friday, Sept. 7**

Grant Union cross country @ Runner Soul XC Fest in Hermiston at 10 a.m.

Dayville/Monument football vs. Echo in Monument at 1 p.m.

Prairie City volleyball vs. Harper at 5 p.m.

Long Creek/Ukiah JV volleyball @ Mitchell/Spray in Spray at 5 p.m.

Grant Union football vs. Monroe at 6 p.m.

Prairie City football vs. Harper at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 8

Prairie City volleyball @ Condon Tournament at 9 a.m.

Grant Union volleyball @ Les Schwab Tournament in Reedsport at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 11

Dayville/Monument volleyball vs. Huntington in Dayville at 5 p.m.

Long Creek/Ukiah @ Harper at 4:30 p.m. (MT)

PANTHERS

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er, Huntington, Joseph, Mitchell/Spray/Wheeler and South Wasco County.

Barber expects Joseph, Echo, Dayville/Monument and Harper will be their toughest opponents.

He said Joseph has some athletic players, and Echo has a couple good receivers.

"Dayville/Monument seemed pretty tough," he said. "They have speed and pretty big guys."

Six-man is in a pilot-program stage for two years. Then, if coaches choose to move forward, playoffs will be held in the 2020 season.

Barber said his team is learning to do a few plays well and will add more as the season progresses.

"We want to be one of the tougher teams in the east, so we can go against the west in the playoffs," he said.

The Eagle/Angel Carpenter
Prairie City Panther ball carrier Isaac Koopman, a freshman, moves past senior Jonathan Lawrence in practice.Eagle photos/Angel Carpenter
Dayville/Monument Tiger Denali Twehues attacks the ball in practice.**TIGERS**

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Kyla is expected to be back in the game in a couple weeks after healing up from a surgery she had earlier this summer, related to a basketball injury.

Both Kyla and Schafer said they are impressed with the two freshmen on the team.

"I'm proud of the freshmen because they really stepped up in our first tournament," Schafer said. "I'm excited to see how they improve in the game over the season."

Rounding out the roster are one sophomore and four juniors.

Juniors Aubrey Bowlus and Denali Twehues will be two to watch for on the

court.

The coach described 5-foot-8 Bowlus as having strong, powerful and consistent hits.

Twehues, who is a second team captain, is a key server and a setter.

"Rarely does she not get a good set to a hitter," Emerson said. "She has the mindset of a consistent setter."

Freshman Aubrianna Osborne attended two summer volleyball camps, and is an anchor of confidence and strength for the team, the coach said.

Dayville/Monument will be up against seven varsity teams in the 1A High Desert League: Prairie City, Adrian, Jordan Valley, Crane, Burnt River, Harper and Huntington.

Emerson said her team beat Prairie City during summer

games at Grant Union, but the team is not resting on their laurels. She said every team in the league will bring strong competition this season.

"We can't take any team for granted," she said.

The Tigers have regrouped since last year when a glitch occurred midway through their successful season and several games were forfeited. Now the team is ready for a comeback.

"We're going in strong, confident and determined," Emerson said. "We're small, but we're definitely mighty."



Dayville/Monument Tiger Faythe Schafer returns the ball in practice.

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