



Pick six gives Grant Union boost in battle with Umatilla



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter
Grant Union's Justin Hodge takes down Umatilla quarterback Andrew Earl with Pablo Ames (8) in back.

Prospectors face Kennedy Trojans Friday

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant Union Prospector head football coach Jason Miller said Friday's 30-20 victory over the 3A Umatilla Vikings was a "gut check" for his team.

The 2A Prospectors fumbled the ball a couple times in the first quarter before quarterback Garrett Lenz scored the first touchdown. Lenz then made the handoff to Russell Hodge

for the 2-point conversion. Umatilla made some gains in the second quarter and had a 12-8 lead.

As the seconds ticked down in the first half, Hodge intercepted Umatilla quarterback Andrew Earl's pass, returning it for a touchdown to put Grant Union ahead 14-12.

"That pick six before half-time was huge," Miller said. "Every game he's a work horse for us," the coach said of Hodge. "He's going to

get the ball and get 20 to 30 touches."

Neither team scored in the third, and the Prospectors' first drive in the fourth started to look bleak with a holding penalty bringing up third down and 20.

Lenz then connected with receiver Jordan Hall on a 54-yard touchdown pass. Hall then caught a pass in the end zone for the 2-point conversion and a 22-12 lead.

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Contributed photo
A compact 9mm.

SHOOTING THE BREEZE Concealed carry

By Marc LeQuieu
For the Blue Mountain Eagle

Carrying a concealed weapon of any type is a very personal decision.

The Founding Fathers identified certain rights that were undeniable or inalienable. For many of us, this right to choose our own method of self-preservation is something we take for granted, and that has become the downfall of the Second Amendment to the Constitution.

As a sportsman, hunter and former law enforcement reserve, I have staunch beliefs regarding these rights of "the people." For me, carrying a means to preserve the sanctity of my wife and children's lives, as well as those I love and cherish outside of my immediate family, has taken the form of a pistol. I have carried a few different makes and models over the years, with the full-size Glock 22 in 40 Smith & Wesson proving to be my most consistent carry gun.

When I was younger and carried a badge, I did not mind when the pistol I had in my waist band would show itself every now and then as I was reaching up to help someone retrieve something from a high shelf or as I stooped over to get into or out of a car. Now, I am much more aware of how the general public views, or better yet does not view, my personal choice in protection.

There are times and places I still openly carry a pistol, such as in the wild woods we are blessed to be surrounded by here in Grant County. For those occasions, I still prefer to have a larger caliber handgun strapped to my side. Even when I am bow hunting, I carry some form of full-size pistol or revolver — one never knows when the ever-more-present cougar or bear would rather not yield to my intrusion into their domain, and nothing speaks louder in the woods than shots fired from a short-bareled handgun.

Interactions with wildlife, especially mountain lions, have been on the increase in most Western states. Recently, Oregon lost its first citizen to an attack on a young woman by a cougar in the Mt. Hood area. Whether you choose to carry every day or just when you're in the woods, choosing the right handgun for your needs is important.

Now that I find myself badgeless, I have chosen to downsize my personal protection piece so as not to draw attention to myself or my capabilities. In today's market of micro carry guns and slim single-stack palm pistols, there really are a plethora of platforms that will very effectively discourage a would-be attacker.

I have family members who have chosen to carry the AirLight offerings from Smith & Wesson, others have chosen a heavier piece like the GP-100 from Ruger and others prefer the little North American Arms .22 LR in their tiny five-shot revolvers.

My current choice for concealed carry is the little Sig 365 in 9mm.

Whatever you choose in caliber is not quite as important as choosing a side arm that you want to carry and are comfortable with as part of your everyday life.

Are you shopping for a handgun for daily use? Have any recommendations or favorites? We would love to hear from you at shootingthebreezebme@gmail.com!

Marc LeQuieu is a former wildland firefighter, professional hunter and gunsmith.

Panthers fall to senior-laden Eagles team

Prairie City homecoming is 7 p.m. Friday

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

The undefeated Joseph Eagles swooped into Prairie City Friday afternoon, taking a 62-2 win over the Panthers in six-man football.

Joseph (4-0), with seven seniors on their team, shut out three other opponents. The Panthers have been the only team to score on the Eagles.

In the first quarter, Joseph was leading by 10 points when Panther Declan Zwegardt picked up a fumble.

Joseph quickly took the ball back when Eagle Kade Kilgore intercepted Prairie City.

Kilgore then connected with TJ Grote for a touchdown.

The Eagles led 17-0 in the first, and kept their momentum in the next two quarters.

Early in the second, the Eagles blocked Prairie City's punt and recovered the ball for a turnover.

Prairie City quarterback

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Eagle photos/Angel Carpenter
Prairie City Panther defender Jake McHatton tackles Joseph Eagle Carson Littlepage in Saturday's



Prairie City Panther quarterback Jayden Winegar (5) looks to pass under pressure from Joseph Eagle Trey Wandschneider (7).



Prairie City Panther Declan Zwegardt faces the Joseph defense Friday as he rushes the ball.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Sept. 26

Long Creek/Ukiah JV soccer vs. Riverside JV in Long Creek at 3 p.m.

Prairie City volleyball @ Grant Union JV at 5 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 28

Dayville/Monument football @ Mitchell/Spray/Wheeler in Spray at 2 p.m.

Grant Union cross country @ Baker Invitational at the Quail Ridge Golf Course at 4 p.m.

Prairie City football vs. Echo at 7 p.m. (homecoming)

Grant Union football @ Kennedy in Mt. Angel at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 29

Dayville/Monument volleyball @ Condon/Wheeler, Trinity Lutheran at the Wheeler tournament in Fossil at 11 a.m.

Grant Union volleyball @ Enterprise, Pilot Rock in Pilot Rock at 2 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 1

Long Creek/Ukiah JV volleyball @ Pilot Rock JV at 4 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 2

Long Creek/Ukiah JV soccer @ Riverside in Boardman, TBD

Prairie City JV pushes forward to sweep Long Creek/Ukiah

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Prairie City Panthers and Long Creek/Ukiah Mountaineer/Cougars junior varsity teams played a nail-biter first set Thursday evening before the Panthers put the match away with a 3-0 sweep.

Prairie City steadily gained momentum, winning with scores of 26-24, 25-20 and 25-5 at their home court.

Long Creek/Ukiah kept a few steps ahead in the first set until Prairie City's Jessi Nolan went on an 8-point serving run, giving the Panthers a 21-19 lead.

The teams tied the score a few more times with Jessica Reames blocking for the win.

"They woke up and found some urgency," Prairie City head coach Jordan Bass said of her team. "In the last one, they realized the Long Creek/Ukiah girls weren't just going to give it to them."

Bass said she was pleased with how they handled the final set, and said she felt that's how they should have played all evening.

Long Creek/Ukiah coach Linda Studtmann said facing Prairie City was a challenge, but said her girls performed well.



Eagle photos/Angel Carpenter
Prairie City and Long Creek/Ukiah junior varsity teams battle it out Thursday. From left: Panthers Hannah Wall (13) and Aries Bice (10) and Mountaineer/Cougars Brooke Harrison (1), Dorothea Johnson (22) and Itsumi Yamamoto (3).

"They're trying to think on the floor and adjust," she said.

She said she was happy with the team coming together with the seasoned players helping the less experienced girls.

"I think we got every one of our players out there," she said.

Prairie City will face Grant Union junior varsity at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 26, in John Day.

Long Creek/Ukiah will face Pilot Rock JV at 4 p.m. Oct. 1 in Pilot Rock.



Long Creek/Ukiah's Alea Douglas moves in to return the ball in Thursday's game against Prairie City.