



QUARTERFINAL FINALES



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Grant Union/Prairie City Prospector Tristan Morris rounds third base in the Wednesday, May 22, game against the Lakeview Honkers.

Prospectors overtaken by Kennedy

Grant Union/Prairie City cannot overcome eight-run second inning

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant Union/Prairie City Prospector baseball team ended their season at the OSAA 2A/1A State Championship quarterfinal round with a 12-3 loss to the Kennedy Trojans on Friday in Mt. Angel.

Kennedy's eight-run second inning gave the Trojans a big early lead in the battle.

Calling it a "back breaker," Prospector head coach Doug Sharp said, "It was one of those innings that nothing went right."

In the top of the first inning, Grant Union had the bases loaded and only one out.

"We had a great opportunity to jump on them early, but unfortunately we had a call that went their way, and we came away with nothing," Sharp said.

"Sometimes, you have to have some luck and get some breaks to win a game at the state level," he continued. "From the beginning, we just didn't get those. Our talent was just as good as Kennedy's, though they definitely played better on that day."

"The kids, coaches, parents and fans all knew that

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The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Grant Union/Prairie City Prospector Tristan Morris pitches the Wednesday, May 22, second-round state playoff game against Lakeview at Malone Field in John Day.

Grant Union/Prairie City defeats Lakeview to advance to quarterfinals

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant Union/Prairie City Prospector baseball team advanced to the quarterfinals of the OSAA 2A/1A State Championships after defeating the Lakeview Honkers 8-4 May 22 in John Day.

Grant Union/Prairie City's sharp one-through-nine lineup, junior Tristan Morris' pitching and a timely catch from freshman center fielder Mason Morris were all elements of the Prospectors' victory over the Lakeview Honkers in the round-two playoff battle at Malone Field at Seventh Street Complex.

"They just hit the ball really well, kept the ball

moving, turning over the lineup and got some quality at-bats," said Prospector head coach Doug Sharp of his team.

Tristan Morris had two strikeouts in the first inning, but the Honkers' two-run double put them on the scoreboard early.

Prospector senior Roen Langum made several stops against the Honkers in his position at first base.

"Emotions were running high, and everybody had nerves going into it, but we overcame those nerves," he said. "They got up in the first inning, but we knew it wouldn't be for long, and we kept rallying."

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GRANT UNION SOFTBALL

Prospector girls fall to North Douglas in quarterfinal round

Opposing Warriors only allowed 34 runs during regular season

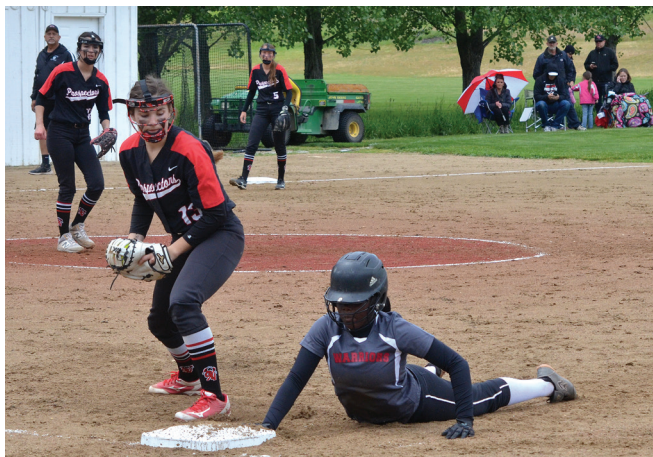
By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant Union/Prairie City Prospector softball team ended a successful season in the quarterfinal round with a 5-0 loss to the North Douglas Warriors.

The Prospectors, with five seniors, made it an exciting season, entering the OSAA state championships as the No. 1-seeded team. North Douglas put a damper on Grant Union's dreams of winning it all this season, with help from their pitcher Nicki Derrick, a junior.

According to OSAA.org, Derrick threw three five-inning perfect games this season, and the Warriors have only allowed 34 runs in the regular season.

Grant Union head coach Zach Williams said, although that record tops



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North Douglas runner Nicki Derrick slides back to first just before Prospector Marissa Smith can tag her out. In back are pitcher Macy Strong, left, and third baseman Tiler Voigt.

the state, he still thought his team would have a chance at the plate.

"Sometimes you just tip your cap to the other team and say good job," he said. "They were ready, they battled, they got a lead on us early and they just never gave up."

Warriors head coach Jesse Rice said he was "a little worried" when it started to rain in the bottom of the third inning.

"She (Derrick) stayed focused and threw the ball hard," Rice said. "We knew that Grant Union could hit the ball, so were really nervous about it. She went right at 'em. She definitely threw the ball hard today."

Senior Macy Strong pitched seven innings for Grant Union, striking out two Warrior batters.

While Grant Union was

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Grant Union/Prairie City Prospector right fielder Kori Jo Girvin, a senior, makes the grab for an out in the game against North Douglas.

Prospector softball team defeats Lost River Raiders to advance

Grant Union/Prairie City tops 16 seed 4-2 in second round

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant Union/Prairie City Prospector softball team, No. 1 in the state, kept their fans on the edge of their seats in their 4-2 victory over the Lost River Raiders of Klamath Falls in the May 22 second-round state playoff of the OSAA 2A State Championships in John Day.

Both the Prospectors and the Raiders had a dry spell until the fourth inning.

In the top of the fourth, Lost River had two outs. Then a Raider sent a base hit up the middle that center fielder Baylee Combs threw to catcher Hailie Wright, who tagged Raider Makenzie Girtman out at the plate.

"That was a huge momentum shift," said Grant Union

head coach Zach Williams.

Grant Union broke out with four runs in the bottom of the inning.

Wright started things off with a double, followed by Madi McKrola's single to send Wright home.

Marissa Smith and Kori Jo Girvin hit singles, and Macy Strong hit a double.

The bottom of the fifth was a different story with Lost River center fielder Rianna Forrester catching three fly balls in a row for quick outs.

Grant Union was able to keep Lost River off the scoreboard until the sixth inning, when a couple Prospector errors allowed the Raiders to get in the game with two runs.

That would be as far as the visitors would go, as Grant Union kept a lid on Lost River in the final inning.

The Prospectors beat the Raiders 9-1 early in the season, so the closer game came

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