



Moulton receives ‘Heart of the Pack’ award for college volleyball

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

Mariah Moulton of John Day received a “Heart of the Pack” trophy for her excellence as a Timberwolves volleyball player at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton.

Moulton said she received the award last weekend at the BMCC Athletics End of the Year Celebration, with top players in other sports also receiving awards.

The volleyball award goes to the player known as someone the team gets

along with and the coach can depend on.

The winner also excels academically, as well as on the court.

As a freshman outside hitter, Moulton had the highest kill percentage for the Timberwolves last fall, and the team qualified for the Northwest Athletic Conference tournament in Tacoma, Washington.

The Timberwolves earned the No. 3 spot in the East Region standings to qualify to compete at the tournament and had a 25-11 record.

Moulton was named Second Team All-Conference.

The Timberwolves have been led by head coach Jessica Humphreys, and will welcome new head coach Ceanna Larson this fall.

Moulton said she’s enjoyed playing for the team and looks forward to starting back this fall.

“It was fun to compete at a higher level in volleyball,” she said.

She received sports scholarships through BMCC for volleyball and softball.

A 2018 Grant Union graduate, she was on the

Prospector volleyball team, led by head coach Shae Speth, that won the 2A state volleyball title in the fall of 2017.

After Moulton earns her associate degree, she plans to continue her studies at Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls and earn a degree in diagnostic medical sonography (ultrasound).

She said she’s enjoyed the small classes in Pendleton and being close to home.

“Coming from John Day, it was a good transition,” she said.



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter  
Mariah Moulton of John Day received a ‘Heart of the Pack’ award for excellence in volleyball as a member of the Timberwolves team at Blue Mountain Community College.



Eagle file photo  
Grant Union Prospector Madi McKrola was named 2A All-League Softball Player of the Year. In the photo, McKrola is in action against Heppner/Ione earlier in the season.

Softball team members receive All-League honors

Player of the Year

Madi McKrola, senior

First Team All-League

Madi McKrola, infield

Hailie Wright, senior, catcher

Marissa Smith, senior, first base

Macy Strong, senior, pitcher

Taylor Allen, junior, outfield

Second Team All-League

Kori Jo Girvin, senior, outfield

Baylee Combs, junior, outfield

Tiler Voigt, junior, infield

Jordyn Young, sophomore, infield



Taylor Allen



Macy Strong



Jordyn Young



Baylee Combs



Hailie Wright



Marissa Smith



All-League Player of the Year, Madi McKrola



Kori Jo Girvin



Tiler Voigt

Grant Union track and field receives 2A All-State honors

GIRLS AWARDS

Kaylee Wright, senior

2A Female Athlete of the Year

First Team, javelin

First Team, high jump

Second Team, 100-meter

Second Team, 4x100-meter relay

Sydney Brockway, senior

Honorable mention, 100-meter hurdles

Honorable mention, pole vault

Honorable mention, long jump

Honorable mention, triple jump

Trinity Hutchison, senior

Second Team, 4x100-meter relay

Honorable mention, long jump

Honorable mention, triple jump

Sierra Cates, junior

Second Team, 4x100-meter relay

Third Team, 100-meter

Honorable mention, 200-meter

Abby Lusco, sophomore

Honorable mention, discus

Carson Weaver, freshman

Second Team, 4x100-meter relay

BOYS AWARDS

Drew Lusco, junior

Honorable mention, discus

Honorable mention, shot put

Jordan Hall, sophomore

Honorable mention, 4x100-meter relay

Quaid Brandon, sophomore

Honorable mention, 4x100-meter relay

Mason Morris, freshman

Honorable mention, 4x100-meter relay

Justin Hodge, freshman

Honorable mention, 4x100-meter relay



For the Eagle/Benjamin Lonergan  
Sydney Brockway of Grant Union lands in the sand during the girls 2A triple jump at the 2019 OSAA Track and Field State Championships at Western Oregon University in Monmouth on May 18. She placed eighth with a distance of 32-04.5.



Trinity Hutchison



Sydney Brockway



Carson Weaver



Abby Lusco



Sierra Cates



Jordan Hall



Justin Hodge



Mason Morris



Quaid Brandon



Drew Lusco



Contributed photos/Tanni Wenger Photography  
2A Female Athlete of the Year, Kaylee Wright

SHOOTING THE BREEZE  
The .284 Winchester blues

Every so often, there is a cartridge that is so far ahead of its time that people don’t know what to make of it. The .284 Winchester is one such.

The .270 Winchester, long revered as an ideal do-it-all cartridge, was not widely available in lever-action rifles, and it was thought to be too hard on pump and auto-loading actions due to its high chamber pressure. The .280 Remington, introduced in 1957, was a solution of sorts for pump and semi-auto rifles but would not fit into popular lever actions. Introduced in 1963, the .284 Winchester offered the same performance as the .270 and .280 but was short enough to be chambered in leverguns like the Winchester 88 and Savage 99 and the semi-auto Winchester 100. Later on, some companies offered lightweight bolt-action rifles chambered for the .284 as well.

Though it had all of the earmarks of being an overnight sensation, the sales were abysmal. The product reviews sold new rifles short, and folks attempting to convert older rifles to the .284 experienced inherent magazine feeding problems. Handloaders complained that the heavy 7mm bullets (160 grain and heavier) had to be seated so deeply (due to magazine constraints) as to deprive them of exceeding amounts of powder capacity. Case design being what it was, one could not form cases from any other caliber to make cartridge cases. While all of these issues had merit, they were



Dale Valade

not hopelessly without remedy. Still an unwitting public drank the Kool-Aid, and while sales for the .270 and .280 soared, the .284 nearly immediately began spiraling down.

With the introduction of the 7mm-08 Remington in 1980, it appeared the sun had nearly set on the .284.

What a shame, the .284 is really a great cartridge. Spectacular sales of the 7mm-08 today continually prove there is a niche market for lightweight, high-powered rifles. With the exception of the short magnums, the .284 offers the most power in a short-action package. Its case has greater powder capacity than the 7mm-08 due to its larger diameter. Like many factory offerings, it’s been necked down and up to provide the launchpad for various wildcat calibers. One such endeavor, the 6.5-284 Norma, is very popular these days with the long-range crowd.

In my family, the .284 is a revered performer, having proven itself on deer, elk and a variety of other smaller game animals. With either the Winchester factory stuff or carefully crafted handloads, it is an accurate, versatile choice. The selection of .284-caliber bullets is the best it’s ever been, with dozens of styles and weights to choose from. Recently, my sister used her favorite .284 to take her



Contributed photo

Although the .284 Winchester was never very popular, it is accurate and versatile, providing power in a short-action package.

first elk. A single 150-grain bullet, the most all-around versatile in my opinion, did the trick. Of course, if you already own a .284, you’re used to this kind of “one and done” performance in the field.

The .284 today is sadly an also-ran, but it is by no means outclassed. The biggest handicap facing current .284 Winchester owners is finding ammunition. Winchester is the only manufacturer currently offering seasonal runs of ammunition. Handloading here becomes very appealing. Keep your empties, and you’ll be shooting your favorite .284 for years to come. After all, you’re not one to quit on a good thing.

Are you fond of the .284 Winchester? Please email us at shootingthebreezebme@gmail.com!

Dale Valade is a local country gent with a deep love for handloading, hunting and shooting.

Grant Union baseball team members receive All-League awards

Co-Players of the Year

Jacob Vaughan, senior

Tristan Morris, junior

First Team All-League

Warner Robertson, junior, pitcher

Jacob Vaughan, catcher

Roan Langum, senior, first base

Tristan Morris, infield

Logan McCluskey, sophomore, infield

Mason Morris, freshman, utility/designated hitter

Second Team All-League

Russell Hodge, junior, outfield

Honorable Mention All-League

Peyton Neault, sophomore, infield

Damion Young, junior, outfield



Jacob Vaughan



Tristan Morris



Damion Young



Peyton Neault



Logan McCluskey



Warner Robertson



Mason Morris



Russell Hodge



Roan Langum

Team photos by Tanni Wenger Photography