



Prairie City football claims 55-24 victory over Locomotives

Team travels to Finn Rock to face McKenzie Eagles Friday

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Prairie City/Burnt River Panthers claimed their first victory of the season at home Friday, defeating the Huntington/Harper Locomotives 55-24.

The quarterback for the Panthers, sophomore Jayden Winegar, completed eight of 17 passes for 151 yards and three touchdowns. He rushed 104 yards on seven carries and scored two touchdowns.

Panther Declan Zwegardt rushed for 262 yards on 18 carries and scored three touchdowns.

"We were up against a team that we outmanned," said Panther coach Scott Dean. "I think that affected us. We knew that first half would happen."

Prairie City led by 41 points at halftime.

The Panther team was fired up from the start, scoring on their first drive with Winegar rushing 20 yards on the play.

Winegar connected with Opie McDaniel to score on the Panthers' next possession. McDaniel had six carries for 58 yards.



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter
The Prairie City/Burnt River Panthers swarm in, tackling a Huntington/Harper ball carrier Damon Klosky. Panthers from left are Sam Allen, Doyal Lawrence (back), Rocky Wang, Jake McHatton, Austin Catron and Cole Teel.

"He ran hard and was tough to bring down two touchdowns," Dean said.

The Panther defense then halted the Locomotives' progress, forcing a turnover on downs that included Prairie City tackling in the backfield.

Winegar connected with freshman Doyal Lawrence for a touchdown pass, and Lawrence was there for the conversion point as well. Lawrence made three catches with 94 yards in the game.

Prairie City was up 19-0 going into the second quarter.

Zwegardt made it 25-0 when he battled through the middle from the 4-yard line on fourth down.

Winegar deflected a pass on Huntington/Harper's next drive to bring up fourth down.

Although an illegal blind-side block was called on the Panthers on their next possession, they moved through the setback. After some rushing gains, Winegar connected with Lawrence on a 25-yard

pass.

Zwegardt made it 33-0, taking another handoff from Winegar and weaving through the blocks.

The Locomotives scored their first touchdown of the game with 1 minute left in the half, the Panthers leading 49-8.

Nine Prairie City cheerleaders performed an energetic half-time routine, adding to the positive atmosphere.

When the Panthers were up 55-8 in the third, coach Dean opened up

the field for all his players to get experience.

"We just wanted to play everybody, get everybody in the ball game, and made sure that everybody would be OK at the end of the game," Dean said.

For the Panther defense, Winegar had 14 tackles, Austin Catron had 12, Zwegardt had nine, center Jake McHatton had eight and Georgiy Georgiyev had seven.

Dean said his team accomplished a lot in Friday's game. Next up, the Panthers travel to McKenzie to face the Eagles at 7 p.m. Friday in Finn Rock.

"We're starting to see some progress in our program, and not just passing — running and defense," Dean said. "It's all coming together. It's just going to be slow."

Commenting on some of the players, he said Zwegardt is learning to run hard, including running through tackles.

"That's what we saw today," Dean said. "I saw several run through tackles."

McDaniel was also running through tackles.

Dean said McDaniel reminds him of Baltimore Colt fullback Tom Newicki, from back in Dean's day — "where if he saw you, he wanted to get a piece of you, and

See Football, Page B8

Prairie City volleyball dominates Huntington for the sweep Friday

All 12 Panthers get in on the action against the Hornets

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Prairie City Panthers got the sweep at home Friday, hosting the Huntington Locomotives.

Prairie City dominated the evening, winning with scores of 25-6, 25-8 and 25-8.

Panther head coach Jordan Bass said she was pleased that all 12 of her girls were in on the action, gaining valuable experience.

Freshmen BettyAnn Wilson and Laken McKay contributed in the match, with Wilson garnering six kills and McKay adding five aces.

McKay was 100% for the evening on 17 serves,

and the team was 90% on serving.

Prairie City pushed for early leads in all three sets.

Early in the first set, Panther Katie Hire, a junior, scored on two aces and McKay also had two aces. Hire also had four kills in the match.

After Panther senior Hailee Wall went on a serving run, including two aces, the Panthers led 15-3. Wall had six aces for the night.

Senior Emily Ennis had three aces down the stretch for Prairie City.

Panther senior Aleah Johns made a save, and Samantha Workman spiked for a kill to bring the score to 23-6.

Huntington fought hard in the final rally of the first set, but Prairie City stayed aggressive for the win, holding the visitors to 6 points and continuing for



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter
Prairie City Panther sophomore Hannah Wall is in action in Friday's game against the Huntington Locomotives in Prairie City.

wins in the next two sets.

Bass said she was pleased with how her entire team stayed competitive throughout the

match. "Hailee Wall has stayed aggressive with her serves and stayed consistent," Bass said.

The coach said senior Shaine Madden is performing well.

"(She) is doing a great job as our libero," Bass said. "Shaine reads the ball really well on defense and is one of our really consistent passers."

On Friday, Wall was looking forward to facing the Adrian Antelopes on the road.

"I'm ready for another league game," she said. "I think we're ready for what they throw at us."

Madden agreed. "I'm looking forward to staying up," she said. "Our confidence is there, our communication is there — we just have to maintain that, and I think we can do well."

Bass expected Adrian would be a good challenge, and they were.

The Antelopes leaped away with a 3-0 win with

scores of 25-17, 25-16, 25-20.

Prairie City was 93% on serving against Adrian, and serve-serve was strong at 94%.

Ennis served 90%, and Hire had 10 kills.

Panther assistant coach Louanne Zwegardt said "unforced digging and hitting errors were our downfall."

Prairie City has a 9-5 overall record, 2-1 in league.

The Panthers face another tough league opponent on Saturday, Oct. 5, when they host the Jordan Valley Mustangs.

PANTHER STATS HIGHLIGHTS VS. HUNTINGTON

Katie Hire: 2 aces, 4 kills
Emily Ennis: 3 aces
Hailee Wall: 6 aces
Laken McKay: 5 aces
Rilee Emmel: 2 kills
Samantha Workman: 4 kills
Hannah Wall: 2 kills
BettyAnn Wilson: 6 kills
Shaine Madden: 6 aces
Kaitlyne Ashley: 1 kill

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Grant Union volleyball splits wins in Stanfield

The Grant Union Prospector volleyball team faced two league opponents in Stanfield on Saturday, going 1-1 for the day.

The Prospectors defeated the Stanfield Tigers, 3-2, with scores of 25-19, 21-25, 25-19, 15-25 and 15-13.

Grant Union fell 2-3 to Weston-McEwen, the TigerScots winning with scores of 25-21, 25-19, 25-14, 16-25 and 15-12.

"This weekend was a big one for us," said Grant Union head coach Ali Abrego. "Really proud of how hard the girls worked to get their win over Stanfield, and how hard they fought against Weston-McEwen — they didn't give up, just had a few simple errors that lead to us giving Weston too many free points."

Standouts in the games were Taylor Allen, Kaytlyn Wells, Baylee Combs and Maddie Spencer, Abrego said.

"They worked well, and maintained composure throughout crucial points in the game," she said.

Grant Union faced the Union Bobcats on the road Tuesday, past press time. As of Monday, the Bobcats had a 4-0 league record in the Blue Mountain Conference (followed by Stanfield 3-2 and Grant Union 2-3). Abrego said she was expecting the match against the Bobcats to be a tough one.

The Prospectors host their Dig Pink Rally on Saturday at Grant Union with varsity games starting at 2 p.m. with a match against the Enterprise Outlaws. Grant Union faces the Pilot Rock Rockets at 5 p.m. Both are league games. Spectators are encouraged to wear pink.

Cross Country runners clock fast times in Baker City

Grant Union Prospector cross country runner Erika Dickens, a senior, ran her second-fastest time of the year on a difficult course, said Grant Union head cross country coach Sonna Smith.

"She placed ahead of everyone in our league except for one Union girl and the Burns contingency," Smith said.

Brady Dole also had an outstanding race, she said.

"He ran the fastest any of our boys have ran on this course in the last three years," Smith said. "The course was extremely hilly with a steep incline right before the finish."

Grant Union competes at 4 p.m. Thursday at the Thompson Ranch in Heppner.

"We are hoping for some great times," Smith said.

BOYS RESULTS
1. 37. Brady Dole 19:18.22
2. 82. Jesse Randleas 20:54.71
3. 85. Quinn Larson 21:13.7
4. 95. Gage Brandon 21:33.88
5. 117. Max Bailey 23:02.7

GIRLS RESULTS
1. 13. Erika Dickens 22:39.74
2. 52. Katelyn Hughes 25:41.16
3. 56. Amelia Hall 25:59.38
4. 72. Tiler Voigt 28:50.82
5. 83. Mikiah Kimble 30:42.62

Prospector football team falls in low-scoring game to Vikings

The 2A Grant Union Prospector football team was on the losing end of a tight nonleague contest with 3A Umatilla last Friday, the Vikings winning 6-0.

"It was a defensive battle, in which their only score resulted from a short field (24 yards) in the first quarter," said Grant Union head coach Jason Miller. "After



EO Media Group/Kathy Aney
Abby Lusco and Katelyn Wells (15) of Grant Union block a hit by Stanfield's Justice Busler during Saturday's volleyball tournament in Stanfield.

that defense played well."

It was Grant Union's fourth straight loss for the season, but the team has battled against high-ranking competition.

They'll have another challenge at 7 p.m. Friday when they host Kennedy, the defending 2A state champions, in John Day. Last month, the Trojans defeated the Santiam Wolverines — the team Kennedy beat in last year's state finals — 28-6.

Dayville/Monument volleyball ready for homecoming match vs. Harper Friday

The Dayville/Monument Tigers volleyball team lost their first High Desert League match of the season, falling to Crane 3-0, the Mustangs winning with scores of 25-17, 25-9 and 25-20.

"Our game against Crane was very action packed," said Tiger head coach Treila Osborne. "We had amazing blocks, and if we missed a block, our back row did an excellent

job of digging the ball. We also had great teamwork and supported each other in Crane."

She said the team is excited to celebrate homecoming with a match against the Harper Hornets at 4 p.m. Friday in Monument.

The homecoming court will be announced during halftime at the Tiger football game that day at 1 p.m. against Mitchell/Spray/Wheeler.

"We are excited to celebrate that this weekend," Osborne said. "We are working on having a strong serving and hitting game this weekend."

Ukiah/Long Creek volleyball shows good sportsmanship, despite recent losses

The Ukiah/Long Creek Mountain Lion volleyball team is down from 12 to eight players, but the team fought on in games against the Dayville/Monument Tigers and Crane Mustang junior varsity teams last week.

Head coach Linda Studtmann said she and co-coach Reagan Enriquez "are proud of our girls."

Studtmann said they lost four players due to various circumstances, including injured players. The loss includes two players with previous starting experience.

On Friday, Ukiah/Long Creek fell to the Dayville/Monument Tigers, the Tigers winning 3-0 with scores of 25-7, 25-11 and 25-14.

Studtmann said she was encouraged by her team's attitude and enthusiasm.

"They increased their score each game and never gave up," Studtmann said. "They had good sportsmanship and enjoyed the game."

Ukiah/Long Creek won the first set 25-13 in their battle with the Crane

junior varsity team, but the Mustangs went on to win with scores of 25-10, 25-18 and 25-13 in the final three sets.

"We need to learn to not let a few mistakes effect our overall performance," Studtmann said. "They tried to encourage and support each other and are learning to work together as a team."

The Mountain Lions face the Burnt River Bulls at 3 p.m. Friday in Unity, then host the Adrian Antelopes junior varsity team in Dayville at noon on Saturday.

1A Ukiah/Long Creek soccer falls to 3A Nyssa

The 1A Ukiah/Long Creek Mountain Lion boys soccer team fell by a score of 12-0 to the 3A Nyssa Bulldogs Sept. 19 on the road.

Mountain Lion head coach Amos Studtmann said they were shorthanded in the game, which made it especially tough against an experienced team.

Studtmann said Thomas Kreamier, a Mountain Lion junior, had a good game and was involved in almost every defensive stop.

"He's aggressive, fast and a team player," the coach said. "He talks to the team and keeps them motivated and organized."

The team has been reviewing game tapes, and re-examining their defensive strategies.

"We spent a week working on defense," Studtmann said. "If you can't play good defense, then you have nothing to run your offense off of."

He said their goal is to improve with each game.

"That's always our goal," he said. Ukiah/Long Creek faced 3A Riverside in Boardman on Tuesday, past press time.