



The Eagle/Steven Mitchell

Grant Union's defense stops the Pioneers' Kiez White (13) during Friday's game.

# Prospectors roll over Pioneers to even up record

## Rematch with Heppner set for Thursday

By Steven Mitchell  
 Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant Union unleashed an offensive onslaught Friday in their 44-7 win over 4A Mac-Hi, evening up their record in the second game of their spring football season.

Jason Miller, the Pros' head coach, said the team played well in the non-league matchup. He said they are starting to execute well.

"They are playing with a forward lean," he said.

The Pros offense blew up out of the gate with juniors Justin Hodge, Maverick Miller and sophomore Jack Strong all scoring touchdowns in the win.

Hodge, a running back, chipped in on special teams as well with a 90-yard kickoff return to keep the momentum going down the stretch.

Hodge and quarterback Devon Stokes, a senior, commanded the ground game in the decisive win.

Stokes said the win was encouraging, and after a year off the field, the team is



Junior Justin Hodge



Senior Jordan Hall

finding its groove. "We're getting back into shape after a year of not playing," he said.

On defense, sophomores Preston Boethin and Jack Strong made key tackles while senior Jordan Hall made key pass deflections to hold the Pioneers to one touchdown all night.

Hall said the win was a good momentum builder as they get ready to play Heppner next Friday.

Hodge said the Pros came together as a team Friday and need to carry it over into practice and into their rematch with Heppner, who blanked the Pros 35-0 the first matchup.

Heppner, who beat Stanfield 46-0 Friday, will host the Prospectors in league play at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 18.



The Eagle/Steven Mitchell

Justin Hodge runs the ball during Friday's game against Mac-Hi. The Prospectors won 44-7.

# Grant Union volleyball team decisively wins against Pilot Rock

## Team travels to Prairie City, Heppner this week before hosting Stanfield Saturday

By Rudy Diaz  
 Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant Union Prospectors volleyball team used their momentum to carry out a decisive victory against Pilot Rock in John Day on March 13.

The prospectors won with scores of 25-15, 25-11 and 25-7.

"I think that the game went really well, and when it's a game against a team in our league, it's very competitive," said Grant Union senior Madison Spencer. "I think we played it out to the best of our abilities."

Junior Lauryn Pettyjohn said she felt that the serves



The Eagle/Rudy Diaz

The Prospectors stomp on the ground after scoring a point to keep the momentum going against Pilot Rock Saturday.

helped the team win the game along with the runs they had with the ball.

Pettyjohn said being smart with the ball helped the Prospectors win, as the team worked on getting the ball over the net instead of only focusing on kills.

Senior Jordyn Young added the energy her team

provided helped drive the girls to victory.

In the first set, Pilot Rock served to start the game, but the Prospectors' defense was on point. They bumped and set the ball for junior Paige Gerry to spike the first point of the game.

The score was close until 4-3, when Pilot Rock hit the

ball out of bounds, and the Prospectors began their first scoring streak.

Spencer served 4 points, with two aces, to get to 9-4.

At 12-9, Gerry began serving, and the team worked together to grow the lead to 17-10. Great serves and defense from the Prospectors carried the set to 25-15.

Junior Grace Taylor served to start the second set and scored the first point of the set. The energy continued as Young spiked the ball to Pilot Rock and scored the second point.

Successful serves led the prospectors to 10-4, with 7 of the 10 points coming from serves. The momentum carried the team to another decisive set with freshman Drewsey Williams scoring the last point, 25-11.

Senior Kenna Combs spiked and scored the final point to close out the final set, 25-7.

Grant Union head coach Shanna Northway said it was a great week for the team. While they lost to the 3A Burns Hilanders Thursday, Northway said the Prospectors played good volleyball against the competitive team. Burns won, 25-6, 25-22 and 25-20.

"We're starting to come together as a team and get some continuity," Northway said. "Our team is a tough serving team, and it was nice tonight that we didn't air out. We served until we got a long run and then served out. They did a good job this week, and I'm super proud of them."

The junior varsity II team was scheduled to host Dayville/Monument Tuesday, past press time.

Grant Union will travel to Prairie City Wednesday and to Heppner Friday, before hosting Stanfield at noon Saturday.

### SPORTS SCHEDULE

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

Grant Union volleyball @ Prairie City/Burnt River, 5 p.m.

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 18

Prairie City/Burnt River volleyball @ Crane, 5 p.m.

Grant Union football @ Heppner, 7 p.m.

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 19

(Dayville/Monument volleyball vs. Crane, rescheduled to April 2)

Grant Union volleyball @ Heppner, noon

Prairie City football vs. Joseph, 1 p.m.

Grant Union Cross Country @ Burns, 4 p.m.

Dayville/Monument football @ Sherman/Condon, 7 p.m.

Grant Union dance virtual, TBA

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 20

Dayville/Monument volleyball @ Wheeler, 2 p.m.

Grant Union volleyball vs. Stanfield, noon

### SPORTS ROUNDUP

#### Dayville/Monument falls to Joseph 33-13 in 'hard-hitting' game

Kyle Hand, Dayville/Monument football coach, said his team played hard in a "hard-hitting football game" Friday in their first loss of the season to Joseph, 33-13.

Hand said sophomore Gauge Jenks "stepped up" with a receiving touchdown while Zach Ferguson rushed for 110 yards.

Senior Mark Thomas, he said, had another big game on the defensive side of the ball with multiple tackles.

He said JT Hand stepped in for starting quarterback Donovan Shaffer who sat out Friday's game with a concussion.

#### Lady Tigers fall to Crane 3-0

The Dayville/Monument volleyball team fell to Crane in three sets Friday.

Treila Smith, Dayville/Monument volleyball coach, said the team served well and stayed positive. She said Destiny Derowitsch, "a very consistent server and defensive player," was outstanding and hustled the entire game.

#### Grant Union cross country team improves times

Head coach Sonna Smith said all of the athletes on the cross country team improved their times at the Stanfield Fun Country Meet on March 11.

The boys took third place overall: ninth place, Brady Dole, 19:07; 10th, Quinn Larson, 19:52; 11th, Skylor Boyd, 19:56; 16th, Max Bailey, 20:50; 24th, Landon Boyd, 23:02; 25th, Jesse Randleas, 23:09; and 31st, Cole Ashley, 25:41.

Smith said the girls were missing

an athlete, and it takes five to seven to have a team.

The girls times were: 10th, Katelyn Hughes, 26:00; 11th, Abbie Justice, 26:23; 15th, Aliciana Archibald, 27:50; 19th, Audrey Walker, 29:35.

Smith said there were nine schools were at Thursday's meet.

Next up, the team will go to Burns on March 19. She said Grant Union's home meet is April 2.

#### Prairie City football game against Harper Charter canceled

Prairie City Panthers foot-

ball coach Nick Thompson said he received an email that Harper Charter canceled Friday's game, "due to COVID-19 concerns." He said he was not sure if that was on Prairie City's end or on Harper's.

Susie Combs, district secretary, said Monday that Prairie City sports games are scheduled this week.

The Prairie City girls volleyball team will host Grant Union at their gym Wednesday at 1 p.m.

The football team will welcome Joseph at Friday at 1 p.m.