Grant Union baseball team falls to Heppner/Ione



Senior Logan McCluskey steps up to the plate May 5 in the first game of a doubleheader against Lakeview.

Pros face Weston-McEwen Saturday

By Steven Mitchell Blue Mountain Eagle

It has been a tough couple of weeks for the Grant Union/Prairie City Prospectors baseball team.

The Prospectors' sixgame skid continued Monday as Heppner/Ione collected a pair of wins in John

"This is one of the craziest years I have ever experienced," Doug Sharp, Grant Union's head coach, said.

The Mustangs took the first game 15-13, scoring seven runs in the first with one hit. Sharp said the Heppner had three hits the entire game.

"When something goes wrong, everything goes wrong," Sharp said.

Despite jumping out in front with a 2-0 lead early in the second game, the Pros struggled in the final innings, and the Mustangs edged out a 6-4 win.

Sharp said he was proud of the effort the team showed until the end.

"These kids always compete," he said. "These kids keep their head up and they keep competing.'

Dufur/South County swept the Prospectors in a doubleheader Friday, besting Grant Union 11-3 in the first game and 13-11 in the second.

Lakeview topped the Pros 12-11 in the first game of a May 5 doubleheader and 8-2 in game two.

Grant Union is 1-2 in league play and 2-9 overall in a shortened season with starts, stops and pauses due to COVID-19. However, many players are grateful to be on the field after missing an entire season last year.

On Saturday, the Pros face Weston-McEwen, 5-4 overall and 3-0 in league play.

SHOOTING THE BREEZE Woes of the gun columnist

Dale Valade

elieve it or not, we have been doing this column for over two years now, and

while some of you may already have the effigy constructed for my heretical proxy purification in your back yard, the feedback in general has been good. Many from across the state and some from out of state have written emails giving praise for

articles they have liked and offering ideas for future topics. Many have asked questions regarding caliber choice, custom rifle builds, shooting mechanics and tips, favorite classics or underrated cartridges, and many other subjects of vast array.

We have attempted to be as apolitical as possible, given that hunters and shooters come from a wide variety of backgrounds, beliefs and social inclinations. But this is a pro-gun, pro-shooting and pro-outdoors column. I am no apologist where it comes to doing the things I love. The goal from the beginning has always been to encourage, inform and entertain.

I have been writing for other platforms here and there along these very same lines. I am excited to see what awaits us just down the road. One thing to be sure is that we must band together as hunters, shooters and conservationists if there is to be any future for the traditions we enjoy and hope to pass down to the next generations.

Anything that opens the door to more and greater opportunities for folks to enjoy nature is a good thing. Hunters as a group need to be more encouraging to each other especially towards those who don't do it the same

way you do it. For example, I don't care for bow hunting, and yet I have no problem with those

that do. While I can seldom afford to hunt out of state, I welcome those that can. And, finally, even though I would rather have to eat my hat than hear another word about the 6.5 Creedmoor, chassis stocks, suppres-

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

sors or muzzle brakes ever again, I recognize that shooters need to support shooters, no matter how ridiculous we feel their preferences may be.

This bickering, emboldened by the anonymity and detachment offered by social media, has only worsened with time. If you don't feel like high fence hunting, using bait stations, hunting with hounds or hunting exotic game species in foreign countries are ethical or sporting practices, then don't engage in them. Give each other the mutual respect of the benefit of the doubt. And when your anti-hunting friends or relatives sound off, do your best to help them see that, even though there are some yahoos in any case, the vast majority of hunters are good, responsible folks.

So just because I haven't written about it here doesn't mean I won't eventually or that I am necessarily prejudiced against the idea. There are all kinds of good articles coming your way soon. And if you'd like in particular to grease your squeaky wheel, or just to tell me to put a sock in it, please email us at shootingthebreezebme@gmail.com!

Dale Valade is a local country gent with a love for the outdoors, handloading, hunting and

Dayville friends participate in the **Senior Ranch Bronc**

Blue Mountain Eagle

Ethan Thompson and Cash Moore participated in the Senior Ranch Bronc at the Harney County Fairgrounds on May 2.

Thompson came home with second place and Moore with a third place win.

The duo are travel partners, best friends and Dayville school



Ethan Thompson, left, and Cash Moore participated in the Senior Ranch Bronc at the Harney County Fairgrounds May 2.



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Boardman

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HESSTON

It's been a pretty difficult few weeks for all of us.

We'd like to give another shout out to Blue

Mountain Hospital. They recently purchased

Greenbacks to share with their staff. Keeping

these dollars here really helps our local businesses! We hope that being moved down from

to everyone for showing them support during this

difficult time. If anyone needs masks or gloves, the Chamber still has a good supply. Stop by and

We have been seeing an increase in visitors

passing through and look for this to continue

Kam Wah Chung opened their visitor center

on May 4th. They will be offering virtual guided

tours outside the visitor center. Tours begin at the

tour at 4:00 pm and they are closed for noon lunch

Tuesday through Saturday. The historic Kam Wah Chung building will remain closed and COVID-19

distancing, sterilizing protocols and wearing face

The Sheep Rock Unit of the John Day Fossil

It's looking like some of our celebrations are

The Bull Bash is being planned for the end of this

Unfortunately, the Seneca Oyster Feed has been

The May business meeting of the Grant County

President Sherrie Rininger and her Nominating

canceled, but they are looking at scheduling it at a

Chamber of Commerce will be Thursday, May 20th at 10:30 am at the Chamber office.

Committee will be meeting later this month to

discuss potential nominations for Directors for

the 2021-22 year. If you are a member in good

standing, and are interested in being appointed to

the Chamber's Board of Directors, please submit

a letter of interest to the Chamber office no later

than May 18th. Ballots will be sent out to the

Tammy Bremner

Chamber Manager

top of the hour starting at 9:00 am with the last

through our tourist season.

another almost \$14,000 in Grant County

"Extreme" to "High" risk will benefit our businesses this Mother's Day weekend. Thanks

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membership at the end of May. Memorial Day weekend is coming up fast. This 207 W. Franklin Ave, Dayville usually brings a lot of visitors to our county. Stay well and let's keep supporting each other!

R MLS (masks will be followed at the visitor center. 160 E. Main • John Day, OR 97845 Office: 541-575-2121 Beds National Monument Paleontology and lome: 541-820-3721 JFranklin@easternoregonrealty.net Visitor Center is now open Friday through www.easternoregonrealty.net Monday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm with a metered entry basis. Visitors may sign up in-person with a ranger at the visitor center for a same-day reservation for a 30-minute slot inside. ww.bluemountainhospital.org going to move forward this year. Plans are moving Blue Mountain HOSPITAL DISTRICT forward for '62 Days, the Demolition Derby and Quality Healthcare Close to Home 170 Ford Rd., John Day, OR 97845 • 541-575-1311 the Grant County Fair. month, and the Thadd's Place Golf and Gala will be **Virginia McMillan, DDS PC** next month.

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