



Grant Union takes top spot at home golf tourney

Devon Stokes posts the best round at 88

By Steven Mitchell
 Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant Union's golf team took the top spot Friday to win its yearly invitational.

With a team score of 378, the Pros bested Heppner with a score of 407, Enterprise with 451, Wallowa with 459 and Echo with 510.

Prospectors head coach Ron Lundbom said Devon Stokes was the top medalist with an individual score of 88. Enterprise's Jacob Amaro came in with an 89 and Grant Union senior Maverick Miller followed with a 94.

Lundbom said Prospectors scorers were Tanler Fuller with a 101, senior Parker Manitsas with



The Eagle/Steven Mitchell

Grant Union senior Devon Stokes makes a chip shot onto the green Friday during Grant Union's yearly invitational at the John Day Golf Course. Stokes posted the best score at the tournament, 88.

a 95, Preston Boethin with a 119 and Bridger Walker with a 125.

On the girls side, he said Enterprise had the only complete team, and they shot a 548. Top medal-

ist was Sasha Koewn, Heppner, 98, followed by Billy Radinovich, Grant Union, 114, and Mackenzie Rose, Echo, 124. Scoring for the GU girls were Audry Walker, 130,

and Layla Wenick, 138.

"The match today was the first match for some of the GU kids, and they all did a great job," Lundbom said.

He said the Pros stepped up knowing that this was the last match for the seniors. And he said Grant Union came out "on top."

"The last two years have been hard on the kids," he said, "and to have the dedication and desire to compete through all this has been admirable. I am very proud of these kids."

Lundbom, who's been at the helm of the Grant Union golf program since 2006, said that golf brings a lot of life lessons to the kids.

"A lot of good life lessons come out of golf for these kids," he said. "They get a lot of self confidence."

SHOOTING THE BREEZE Line of sight

While scrolling a certain social media feed, I saw a video of a certain nimrod who after taking aim over the hood of his Ford Ranger pickup proceeded to cut loose with a rapid four or five shot string from his semi-automatic rifle. Only after doing so did he notice what we viewers could already see — the bullet holes he drilled through the hood of his vehicle.

Sights exist to align the barrel of the weapon with the intended target. They are not the barrel itself, only something we

shooters can use to direct our projectiles to the point where the line of bore intersects with the line of sight. For some weapons this all takes place at relatively close distance, and for others it's much farther. Some sighting systems are

very adept at enabling us to arrange collisions to way out there, while others are not.

The shotgun bead for example is a very short range proposition while the variable power rifle scope dramatically increases our reach. One sight system that has nearly gone into obscurity is that of the side mounted telescopic sight. In the Korean War, M1 Garand rifles were altered and fitted with a 6x side mounted rifle scope for the obvious intention of sniper/counter sniper work. At a glance, it seemed to have had nearly the reach, albeit not the accuracy of the Springfield bolt-action rifles, which were also still in use. Soldiers armed with these MIC or MID rifles quickly found out that the side mounted scopes, not centered over the same axis as the bore, would shoot more or less straight only out to certain distances where the axis of the line of sight and line of bore would intersect. However past those distances, the bullet would continually travel to the left of the point of aim, in a criss-cross sort of fashion, increasingly worsening the greater the distance.

While we don't see side mounted scopes hardly at all these days, long-range shooters do see similar problems but to a smaller degree with canted scope reticles. This however isn't the majority percentage of line of sight errors. Like the now-famous fellow mentioned at the outset of this column, more often it's due to shooters not ensuring their barrel is high enough to clear would-be obstructions. Once as a young man I witnessed a fellow put a bullet into his pickup bed railing. He leaned over the box to shoot at a ground squirrel, and not ensuring his line of bore was clear like his line of sight, he shot a hole in his pickup bed.

Line of sight to line of bore relationship can also be frustrated by limbs, brush, tall grass and rocks. Don't blow your big game hunt or raise your auto insurance rates by failing to mentally file your bullet's flight plan before shooting!

We want to hear from you! Write to us at shootingthebreezebme@gmail.com!

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

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Grant Union qualifies 12 for state track meet

Grant Union came away from the district track meet with first-place trophies and athletes going onto the state meet.

Grant Union track and field head coach Sonna Smith said that Jordan Hall posted a 16.42 in the 110 hurdles that moved him to first in the state 2A division by over a second.

Smith also said that the 4x100 boys relay also posted a best in the state time for 2A with a 46.03.

Smith said that the following athletes qualified for the state track meet:

- Justin Hodge: 4x100, 100, 200, shot put
 - Quaid Brandon: 4x100, 100, 200
 - Luke Jackson: 4x100, 400 meters
 - CJ Glimpse: 4x100, Triple Jump
 - Jordan Hall: 110H, long jump, triple, javelin
 - Eli Wright: 300H, high jump, javelin
 - Brady Dole: 3,000, 800
 - Quinn Larson: 110 hurdles
 - Drake Euting: high jump
 - Abby Lusco: discus
 - Kate Hughes: 300 hurdles
 - Katie Rigby: triple jump
 - Carson Weaver: 100 meters, high jump
- Grant Union's track and field team will make their state appearance at 10 a.m. Saturday at Union High School.

Long Creek girls place second at Prairie City's Twilight Track Meet

Long Creek's girls varsity team took second place at Prairie's Twilight Track Meet. Prairie City's girls team took fourth.

Nolan Garinger of Long Creek tied for the top spot in the 100-meter dash with Crane's Austin Ward.

Prairie's boys team took fifth, while Long Creek's boys took fourth.

Prospectors split doubleheader with Weston-McEwen

The Grant Union Prospectors baseball team lost to Weston-McEwen 3-2 in the first game of a doubleheader Saturday and won the second game 13-5.

Prospectors softball team competing in state playoffs



The Eagle/Rudy Diaz

Grant Union's Halle Parsons pitches during a game on May 15.

Team shuts down Weston-McEwen in double header

By Rudy Diaz
 Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant Union/Prairie City softball team is competing in the state playoffs.

The Prospectors were scheduled to make their play-off debut Tuesday past press time. The winner of that game will play again Thursday with times to be announced.

The Prospectors dominated both games against Weston-McEwen on May 15 with wins of 10-0 and 17-1.

Grant Union softball head coach Zach Williams said the team played well as they focused on every pitch every inning. He said Grant Union's pitching was great, and the team made sure their defense was on point.

"Our pitching has been great all season," Williams said. "Both freshmen, Drewsey Williams and Halle Parsons, kept us in every game. The only game we dropped was because we haven't just made routine plays routine."

The girls defense halted any offensive momentum from Weston-McEwen in the first game of the doubleheader. The first game ended 10-0 after six innings.

The Lady Pros carried the momentum into the second game where their defense remained on point. The first inning quickly passed as Parsons pitched and kept the ball down so the girls could quickly tag out three players to finish the top of the first. At the bottom of the first, the Lady Pros began building their moment with 3 runs. Williams drove in two runs, and



The Eagle/Rudy Diaz

Laken McKay bats May 15.



The Eagle/Steven Mitchell

Coach Zach Williams congratulates the team on their victory.

another run was scored before the end of the inning.

Parsons maintained the strong defense by striking out two batters at the top of the second inning. At the bottom of the second, the Lady Pros ran with the game with

a total of 12 runs at the end of the inning, 14-1.

Weston-McEwen continued to push back against the Lady Pros' defense, but Grant Union maintained their lead and added an additional 3 runs at the end of the third inning, 17-1. After the top of the fifth inning, the game concluded with the Lady Pros victorious.

Williams said one improvement the team could make is adjusting to pitchers and keeping the offense shown in the game against Weston-McEwen.

"We haven't done that all season — we've been winning 2-0, 3-1 type games because their defensive pitching is tough — but we finally got onto the pitcher and put an inning together," Williams said. "We're not making adjustments quickly enough at the plate. Every pitcher you see is a different speed. We did better today."