

PRO VERSUS PRO

After cancellation, boys basketball team hosts pick-up game

By Steven Mitchell
Blue Mountain Eagle

After hearing the news that Crane's boys basketball team had to cancel last week's game, Prospectors head coach RC Huerta did not want to let precious game time slip away ahead of the team's game against Weston-McEwen.

Huerta selected two of his seniors to pick varsity and junior varsity players for a scrimmage game.

Pros assistant coach Jesse Gosnell, who coached one of the teams, said the athletes had things they needed to work on and had a "perfect" opportunity to work on them.

"It worked out pretty good," Gosnell said. "It was a bad situation, but it turned out pretty good."

Jordan Hall said the game was not stressful, and the team had a lot of fun on the court.

"Playing with your teammates is always good," Stokes said. "One way or another, Grant Union wins."

Peyton Neault said it was "very weird" to have inside jokes with the other team, but it was fun.

Neault said he was surprised at how much of a good time he and the team ended up having.

"I thought it was going to be like a practice," he said.



Grant Union boys basketball assistant coach Jesse Gosnell on the sidelines during a June 9 scrimmage game.

"But it was like being out in the park."

The team had not played a "pick-up" game against one another since middle school.

Stokes said the coaches structured the game. Each team had a coach running their offense, like a real game. He said since he and Hall were named captains, they both hoped to coach their teams.

"They said no to that,"

Stokes laughingly said.

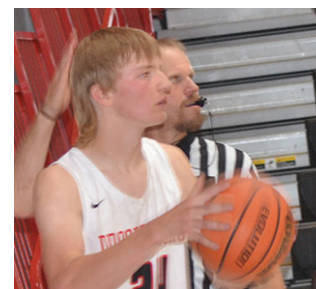
While everybody won, Hall's team came out on top in the scrimmage game, 45-33.

Hall's team consisted of Quaid Brandon, Cooper Peterson, Drake Euding, Till Winger, Talon Van-Cleve and Eli Wright.

On Stokes' team were Neault, his brother Parker, Eric Cully, Andrew Hunt, Tucker Wright and Sheldon Lenz.



The Eagle/Steven Mitchell
Devon Stokes, a senior waits for a pass during the Pros' June 9 scrimmage game.



The Eagle/Steven Mitchell
Grant Union's Tucker Wright looks to pass the ball during the team's scrimmage game.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Grant Union places fifth at Pine Valley Tournament in Burns

Andy Lusco, Grant Union Prospectors wrestling head coach, said a majority of the team was missing due to scheduling conflicts at the Pine Valley Tournament in Burns over the weekend, but the team placed fifth.

"I thought the five we took worked hard and showed some grit," he said. "I'm proud of these guys for sticking with it through a tough season."

Jesse Douglass took fourth place in the 138 weight division. At the same time, Justin Hodge captured second in 160. Meanwhile, Rolondo Moreno and Zach Ostberg took second and third in 285, and Tucker Carpenter took fourth in the 220 categories.

Lusco said he hopes the whole team can make the district tournament on June 19 in Culver, and the squad can perform to their potential.

"I think we could be competitive if we have our best day at districts," Lusco said.

Boys basketball team falls to Weston-McEwen 63-53

The Grant Union boys basketball team lost to Weston-McEwen, 63-53, on June 10. Saturday's game against Pilot Rock was cancelled. The team lost to Joseph, 60-50, Monday.

The Eagle was unable to reach head coach RC Huerta for comment.

The Pros are scheduled to travel to Irrigon for a 7:30 p.m. tipoff Thursday.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, JUNE 17

Grant Union basketball @ Irrigon, boys only, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Grant Union wrestling @ District Tournament, Culver High School, 9 a.m.

McCrackens bring home state titles, Rookie of the Year from state rodeo competition

Siblings to compete in National High School Finals Rodeo

By Steven Mitchell
Blue Mountain Eagle

Two Grant Union High School students brought home state titles in multiple events at the Oregon State High School Rodeo State Finals, held in Prineville June 9-12.

Sam McCracken, a senior, took first place in boys cutting, an equestrian competition where a horse and a rider demonstrate before a panel of judges both the horse and rider's ability to handle cattle. He took second in reined cow horse.

His sister Bailey McCracken, a sophomore, took first place in barrel racing, an event where a horse and rider attempt to run a pattern around barrels in the fastest time.

Additionally, she took fourth in cutting, eighth in pole bending and was named



Contributed photo
Sam and Bailey McCracken pose with the saddles they won at the state rodeo competition.

Rookie of the Year in Oregon. This was Bailey's first year at the state finals.

"I was pretty nervous before each of my go-rounds," she said. "But I just did what I usually do."

She said it felt really good to hear her name called to walk up to receive the cham-

ionship saddle for barrel racing.

Bailey said she was unsure if she would win Rookie of the Year. She said the officials add up the points for all of the freshmen contenders, and she said there were a few others who had several points.

"It was really surprising



Contributed photo
Sam McCracken competes at the Oregon State High School Rodeo State Finals last year in Prineville.

because I wasn't sure if I was going to win or not," she said.

The siblings will head to the National High School

Finals Rodeo July 18-24 in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Bailey said competing at the national level with her brother is going to be "crazy."

"It's going to be a lot of fun going there and competing with Sam," she said.

Bailey will compete in cow cutting and barrels while Sam will compete in cow horse.

Another Prospector, Jack Strong, rode three bulls at the state competition and was close to riding his last bull in the final go-round but could not make it. He had a good time and is looking forward to his next rodeo.

Sam took first place in boys cutting last year and second the year before. Last year, Sam finished in the top third in reined cow at the National High School Finals Rodeo in Guthrie, Oklahoma.



NOTICE OF 2021 CHIPSEAL PROJECT GRANT COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT

County Road 15, Ritter Road and
County Road 62, Summit Prairie Road

The Grant County Road Department will begin its Chip Seal season on **Monday, JUNE 14th** beginning on County Road 15, Ritter Road then will proceed to County Road 62, Summit Prairie Road **June 21st**.

Work schedule is Monday - Thursday, 6 am-5:00 pm.

Travel with caution through the work zone and prepared for possible loose rock, fresh oil and delays.

There will be traffic control devices and pilot cars.

For further information on this chip seal project call the Road Department at [541-575-0138](tel:541-575-0138).

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