



Steven Mitchell/Blue Mountain Eagle  
**Grant Union/Prairie City's Halle Parsons slides into home on Saturday, May 7, 2022, during the first game of a doubleheader against Weston-McEwen. The Lady Pros won the first game 7-6 in extra innings and took the second game 22-9.**

# Winning a close one

Lady Pro softball team gets a walk-off hit to stay unbeaten

By STEVEN MITCHELL  
 Blue Mountain Eagle



Steven Mitchell/Blue Mountain Eagle  
**Grant Union/Prairie City's Raney Anderson, a junior, roped a walk-off single in the eighth inning to win the first game of the Lady Pros' doubleheader against Weston-McEwen.**

The Grant Union/Prairie City softball team remains undefeated after picking up a pair of wins Saturday, May 7, in a doubleheader at home against Weston-McEwen.

The first half of Saturday's twin bill saw the top-ranked 2A Lady Pros win their closest game of the season in an eight-inning thriller.

With the game knotted up at 6-6 in the eighth inning, a double by senior Riley Robertson put her in scoring position for junior Raney Anderson to rope a line-drive single to centerfield for a 7-6 walk-off win.

Anderson said the win was a team effort and that while she and her teammates felt the pressure, they also had fun.

"We battled hard," she said. "Battling in a game like that is so fun."

Close games, she said, are much more intense and keep the team engaged.

"There is a lot of pressure," Anderson said, "but you just have to stay calm and do your best. You just have to remember it's one play at a time. You can't think about errors or what's going to happen next. You just have to focus on the present."

Zach Williams, Grant Union/Prairie City's head coach, said rain was a factor in the game. The wet weather, he said, made it hard to grip the ball.

He said the rain made it particularly hard for a velocity pitcher like Drew Williams.

There were a few innings, he said, where Drew did not have the grip to throw anything but a fastball, which was questionable.

The wet weather also impacted the Lady Pros' defense. Williams said routine plays became toss-ups of whether they could make a throw to get the out.

Games like Saturday's, he said, came down to the squad having patience at the plate.

Williams said the team was swinging at pitches out of the strike zone in the early going. However, he said, the players adjusted, allowing them to work the count and see pitches later on.

"We left too many girls on base the first few innings," he said, "which is unlike our girls, and I really felt like we would break through at some point."

Williams said that staying

calm and executing the game plan was key to the squad winning Saturday's tight first game. Also, he said, the team did the "little things" right and stayed disciplined at the plate.

Williams said that with Saturday being senior recognition day, emotions were high. Not only that, but he said it was also team picture day. Thus, there were many distractions.

"(Senior recognition day) is always an emotional day and generally it is hard to flip that switch back to the focus of our game plan," Williams said. "And while it took longer than usual, I think the girls did a good job considering the weather."

The Lady Pros racked up 12 hits in the first game, with freshman Savannah Waterson hitting a home run. Anderson and Robertson both had had extra-base hits, as did Addy Northway, Paige Gerry, Drew Williams and Sivanna Hodge, while Harli Grove had a sacrifice and an RBI.

Drew Williams, the winning pitcher, gave up nine hits and three earned runs while fanning seven over eight innings.

The squad rode the momentum of the first game into the second contest, dominating the Tigerscots in a 22-9 shellacking.

Halle Parsons, said Williams, was solid on the mound, while the team hit seven home runs and had an eye-popping 20 hits overall.

With three more regular season games left, Williams said the unbeaten Lady Pros need to keep doing what they have done all season long and not let "the moments get too big."

# Pros sweep track invitational

By JUSTIN DAVIS  
 Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY — Grant Union's boys and girls track teams swept the Grant Union Invitational Track Meet on Friday, May 6, in their final action before the district track meet.

The invitational honored outgoing seniors and was the final home meet of their careers. Both the boys' and girls' competitions featured six teams, including the winning Grant Union squads. The boys finished with 194 points, followed by second-place Enterprise, which finished with 140. The girls finished the day with 185 points. Burns was second in the girls' field with 153.

Grant County teams Monument and Long Creek also took part in the meet. Long Creek didn't log a score in the girls' competition but finished with 8 points among the boys. Monument finished with 5 points in the girls' competition but didn't register a score in the boys' competition.

The Pros ended the meet with 14 top five finishes in the 17 events contested on the afternoon in the boys competition. Seniors Justin Hodge, Luke Jackson and Mason Morris led the way for the boys.

Hodge picked up first-place finishes in the 100 meter race, 4x100 relay and javelin and finished second in the discus. Jackson picked up a pair of first-place finishes in the 200 meter race and 4x100 relay with Hodge and teammates Cashton Wheeler and Morris. Jackson also picked up a second-place finish in the 100 meter race. Morris had first-place finishes in the long jump and triple jump to go along with his first-place finish in the 4x100 relay.

Distance runners Brady Dole and Logan Randleas left the meet with top four finishes in the two distance races. Dole finished second in the 1,500 meter race and Randleas was fourth in the 3,000 meters.

Field events saw the Pros record a top five finisher in every event contested at the meet. Three of the top four finishers in the high jump were Grant Union athletes. The lone outlier was Long Creek's Nolan Garinger, who finished second in the event. Freshman Mason Bengé won the event, and fellow freshmen Ryan Coombs and Logan Randleas finished third and fourth in the event, respectively.

Grant Union paired a third-place finish in the shot put by Tucker Carpenter with a fifth-place fin-

ish by Alex Finley in the same event. Lucas Wolf added a fifth-place finish in the discus to Hodge's previously mentioned first-place finish in that event.

Pole vault didn't produce a first-place finisher for the Pros but did produce two top three finishers with Max Bailey's second-place finish and Quinn Larson's third. The long jump added two more top five finishers to Grant Union's tally. Riddick Hitchison and Ryan Coombs placed fourth and fifth in the event.

The Pros continued the trend of multiple top five event finishers in the triple jump. Wheeler placed fourth and Bengé placed fifth to go along with the first-place finish Morris picked up in the event.

The Lady Pros were just as dominant as the boys. Despite scoring fewer points than the boys squad, the girls had a top five placer in every event contested at the meet.

Grant Union's seniors flexed their muscles on a day that was meant to honor them. Carson Weaver, Lauryn Pettyjohn and Katelyn Hughes each had three top five finishes on the afternoon.

Weaver placed second in the javelin and recorded third-place finishes in the 100 meter dash and 4x100 meter relay. Pettyjohn finished the afternoon with a second-place result in the 100 meter hurdles, a third-place finish in the 4x100 relay and a fourth-place result in the 200 meter dash.

Hughes won the javelin and picked up a pair of third-place finishes in the 300 meter hurdles and 4x100 relay with teammates Weaver, Pettyjohn and freshman Morgan Randleas.

Lady Pro freshmen and sophomores made their presences known in field events, with lowerclassmen placing in all but the javelin.

Mallory Lusco's throws were good for fourth in the shot put and second in the discus. Teammate Morgan Walker was right behind Lusco in the discus, placing third. Randleas notched second-place finishes in the triple jump and long jump along with a third-place finish in the high jump.

The Lady Pros picked up a pair of wins to go along with Hughes' first-place finish in the javelin with Macy Carter winning the pole vault and Katie Rigby winning the triple jump.

Grant Union now prepares for the 2A Special District 5 Championship meet at Weston-McEwen on Friday, May 13. Events start at 11 a.m.

# Pros split pair with Weston-McEwen

By JUSTIN DAVIS  
 Blue Mountain Eagle

ATHENA — Grant Union's baseball team split a pair of close games with No. 6-ranked Weston-McEwen in Athena on Saturday, May 7, to stay at .500 on the season.

The first game saw Weston-McEwen score two runs in the first inning and a third in the sixth while holding the Pros scoreless for a 3-0 loss.

In the second game, the Grant Union offense found its rhythm and a little bit of

luck to eke out an 11-10 victory. Weston-McEwen built a 6-2 lead heading into the fifth before the Pros started chipping away. Grant Union would add a run in the fifth inning and respond to a two-run sixth by Weston-McEwen with four runs of their own to tie the game at 8 headed into the seventh inning. The Pros would surrender two runs in the eighth inning only to score three of their own and leave with the 11-10 win.

Syrus Workman hit the game-winning single with two strikes and the team

down to its final out. The winning run scored after a throwing error by the Weston-McEwen shortstop to first in an attempt to throw Workman out and end the game.

The Pros' win marks only the second loss on Weston-McEwen's record and their first loss to an Oregon team on the season. The win also snapped a two-game losing streak for the Pros and pushed their record back to .500 on the season at 9-9.

The team will be in action next on Saturday, May 14, at Pilot Rock. The game starts at 4 p.m.

## SPORTS SCHEDULE

**THURSDAY, MAY 12**  
 3 p.m.: Grant Union softball, doubleheader @ Pilot Rock/Nixyaawii

**FRIDAY, MAY 13**  
 11 a.m.: Grant Union track, League Championship Meet @ Weston-McEwen Track

**SATURDAY, MAY 14**  
 11 a.m.: Grant Union baseball, doubleheader @ Sherman

**TUESDAY, MAY 17**  
 2 p.m.: Grant Union

baseball, doubleheader vs. Lyle

4 p.m.: Grant Union Softball @ LaGrande

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 18**

4 p.m.: Grant Union baseball vs. Baker/Powder Valley

Home games in bold

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**Notice**  
**Grant County Taxpayers**

The third installment of the 2021-22 property tax is due Monday, May 16th, 2022 by 5:00 p.m.

Payments may be made at the Tax Collector's Office at the Grant County Courthouse in Canyon City, or the payment may be mailed and postmarked no later than May 16th, 2022. Please remember that delinquent taxes accrue interest at the rate of 16% per year. If you have any questions, please call the tax office at 575-0107..

PO Box 10  
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**WELCOME**  
*Audrey Bremner!*

Eastern Oregon University is pleased to announce the hiring of Audrey Bremner as our new Grant County Business Advisor! To schedule an appointment for no-cost, confidential business advising, you may reach Audrey by calling 541-620-2716 or by emailing eousbdc@gmail.com.

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