

SHOOTING THE BREEZE The working class Magnum

The 7mm Rem Mag has a lot going for it. The title spot for this accolade has always been the subject of dispute. Many — and with good reason, too — would arbitrarily assign the .300 Winchester Magnum the No. 1 spot here. If you have a .300 Magnum of any sort upon which you may dote, you probably don't need to read any further, frankly.



Dale Valade

In my mind, however, the 7mm Remington Magnum is the working class magnum. Without completely dulling your day with ballistics figures and summarized history, I hang my claim solely upon all the 7mm Magnum has to offer.

The .30 caliber has always been America's darling, and as my readers know, given a choice, I will take a .30-06 every time for the proverbial all-around hunting rifle. But in choosing a runner-up, the 7mm Remington Magnum gets the nod without hesitation.

The .270 and .308 Winchester are both standouts in the same capacity but don't have the versatility offered by the 7mm Magnum. I suppose we could nitpick and offer up for consideration the .280 Remington or even the Ackley Improved version.

Fine cartridges that they are, neither has attained the popularity of the 7mm Rem Mag, and therefore both rifles and ammunition are much more scarce, especially if one does not wish to handload.

Many of the same features which endear the .30-06 to me can also be said of the 7mm Rem Mag. The ubiquity of rifles and ammunition, manageable recoil, superb accuracy and knockdown power, and a versatile range of useful bullet weights are the biggest draw.

Introduced in 1962, the 7mm Rem Mag was a final contender

in the Magnum craze, offering an affordable rifle and ammunition for those who wanted Magnum performance without paying premium prices. But how does it meet or beat a .300, you ask?

So similar in field performance are the 7mm and .300 Magnums that it would be pedantic to try to demonstrate any realistic difference between them. What one will do, the other will effectively do. The .300 Win Mag — which came along in 1963 — pitches a 180 grain bullet to about 2950 fps while the 7mm Rem Mag makes 2900 fps with its 175 grain bullet.

Tomato, tomahto. The real noticeable difference to me is in recoil. For whatever reason, all else being equal, the .300 to me displays an uncomfortable level of recoil, especially from the bench. The 7mm Rem Mag, providing the same ballistic performance as the .300, to me is much more pleasant to shoot.

Now, in an apples to oranges comparison we could delve into the .300's ability to shoot heavier bullets or the higher ballistic coefficient of the .284 caliber, but we won't. As I said at the outset, if you've found Shangri-La in the arms of a .300 Magnum, good for you, they are fully capable rifles.

I myself am a dyed-in-the-wool .30-06 fanatic. That being said, were I to set out to buy an all-around rifle and I wanted a Magnum, the 7mm Remington Magnum would get the nod. It really is that good!

Are you a fan of the 7mm Rem Mag? Do you prefer a .300 Win Mag? Write to us at shootingthebreezebme@gmail.com and check us out on Facebook!

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

Lady Panthers take Round One

Volleyball team defeats Sherman to advance in state tournament

By JUSTIN DAVIS
Blue Mountain Eagle

PRAIRIE CITY — The Prairie City volleyball team was down three starters for their home matchup with the Sherman Lady Huskies in the opening round of the OSAA Class 2A state volleyball tournament on Wednesday, Oct. 26.

But that did little to affect the outcome of the match as the Lady Panthers defeated Sherman 3-1 in front of an energized home crowd to advance to the second round of the state tournament.

All four games in the match were filled with scoring runs and rallies as both teams looked to extend their respective seasons for at least a couple more days. Game scores for the match were 25-17, 25-23, 19-25 and 25-19.

The first game of the match saw the Lady Panthers fall behind early only to regroup and take a 9-5 lead, forcing a Sherman timeout. Sherman would score five unanswered points following the timeout to take a brief 10-9 lead.

But the Lady Panthers would regroup again, going on a 9-3 scoring run to pull ahead 18-13, forcing the Lady Huskies to burn another timeout. The Prairie City girls would ultimately close out Game 1, winning the contest 25-17.

The second game started much like the first with the Lady Panthers jumping out to an early lead only to have the Lady Huskies rally and tie the game at 11. Prairie City would score four unanswered points following the tie before Sherman went on their own run to take a 17-15 lead and force a Lady Panther timeout.

The Lady Huskies would lead by as many as three points in the late stages of the second game only to have the Lady Panthers again claw their way back into the contest and force a Sherman timeout after tying the game at 20. The teams would trade scores following that timeout before the Lady Panthers scored the final two points of the game to win 25-23 and take a commanding 2-0 lead in the match.

Facing the end of their season, the Lady Huskies jumped out to an early 10-4 lead in the third game, which led to Prairie City needing to spend a timeout in an attempt to halt the early Sherman run. Prairie City would outscore Sherman 10-3 following the timeout to take



Prairie City students rush the court in celebration following the volleyball team's 3-1 victory in the opening round of the 2A state volleyball playoff on Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2022.



Prairie City sophomore Josie Horrell serves the ball during her team's opening round state playoff matchup with Sherman on Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2022.

a brief 14-13 lead.

Sherman would be persistent, however, retaking the lead and pushing their advantage to 22-18 to force another Lady Panther timeout. The timeout did little to change the dynamic of the third game as the Lady Huskies went on to win 25-19 to set up an all-important fourth game.

Game 4 was again a game of runs and rallies as the Lady Panthers again built an early lead only to have Sherman fight their way back into the game and tie the score at 6-all. A 13-7 scoring blitz following the tie gave the Lady Panthers a 19-13 lead and forced a Sherman timeout with their season on the line.

This time, it was Prairie City that was unfazed by the attempt to stifle their momentum. The Lady Panthers were able to maintain their six-point advantage through to the end of the game and close out the Lady Huskies 25-19,

prompting the Panther student section to storm the court to celebrate the opening-round win with the team.

Prairie City seniors Kat Ashley and Laken McKay spoke about the energy of the crowd and playing their last volleyball game in front of the Prairie City fans. Both Ashley and McKay said it "felt great" to have the final home game of their high school volleyball careers end in a win.

The energy of the home crowd for this game is something that stood out to Ashley, who noted that the environment for this game was different than anything she'd experienced in the years prior.

"I have to say that the last four years have definitely not leveled up to what the energy was tonight. We had the football boys, we had the community and we had everybody here supporting us and cheering us on, and I think that's a huge part of trying to work as a team is having that support behind you," she said.

McKay agreed, saying that the fans have never been as "jacked" as they were on Wednesday night. When asked if the crowd helped propel the team to their first round win, both responded with a resounding "yes."

Prairie City head coach Jordan Bass said she felt "super proud" of her young team's effort. "They all came together, they all did their jobs. That was some of the best defense that I've seen from most of our team all year, so that was really exciting to see them do that at a really critical moment," Bass said.

Bass also spoke about the raucous home crowd at the game, echoing what her seniors had said about the crowd previously. When asked if the home crowd's energy helped propel her team to victory, Bass responded, "Definitely."

"Volleyball is huge game about energy, so when they have their home crowd, it can make a difference for sure," Bass said.

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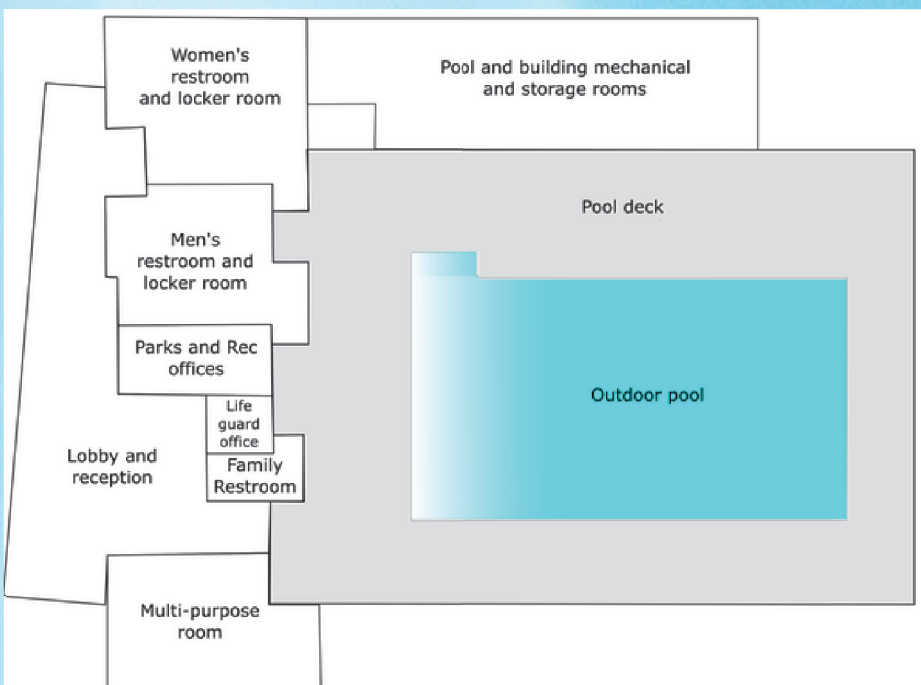
Build the Pool



THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE VOICED THEIR ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT!

Pool facts:

- We will lose \$2 million in grant funding if the bond doesn't pass. A no vote = NO POOL!
- Most residential property owners will pay less than \$7/month.
- The proposal is a modest size and design—essentially a modernized version of Gleason pool. It is not extravagant.
- We can't wait to see swim meets covered in the paper again... and to see YOU at the pool.



"This will be for your kids and grandkids now, and I will gladly help foot the bill."
-Leslie Traylor

"Vote yes for the pool because Grant County is a great place to raise children and we want it to stay this way."
-Erik Romstad

"...We believe that it is our turn to step up and provide a pool for the next generation."
-Heather and Zac Bailey

"As complicated as it may seem, it really is just that simple. We take care of one another and show up to help when it counts."
-Brenna DesJardin

Ballots are due November 8

Ballots must be postmarked by November 8th or may be returned to the ballot box at:

205 S Humbolt Street, Canyon City by 8:00 pm

Learn more at www.swimcenter.vote Find us on Facebook: @FriendsOfJDCCParksAndRec

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