



Grant Union girls ready for big roles



Senior
Heather Mosley

Coach: Team is fast with strong defense

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

The Grant Union Lady Prospectors are a young team with nine freshmen and just one senior, but head coach Mark Mosley said their potential is showing early in

the season.

"From the freshmen to the senior, we have a lot of talent," he said. "Some of the younger girls are going to play some pretty big roles for us this year."

Team speed and strong defense are positives the team is bringing to the table, he said.

This is Mosley's fifth year as head coach and his seventh year coaching, overall. His assistant

coaches are Casey Hallgarth, who coaches the junior varsity girls team, and Crystal Culley.

Hallgarth has several years of coaching experience from his time leading Elgin's varsity boys basketball team. He also coached Grant Union's junior high football team this year.

Culley has been involved in youth basketball programs over the years.

There are 23 players making up the varsity and junior varsity teams, including nine freshmen, six sophomores, seven juniors and one senior. Returning starters are senior Heather Mosley, junior Mariah Moulton, and sophomore Kaylee Wright, who was a starter for part of last season. Several varsity girls played

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Grant Union wrestlers grapple at opening meet. **Page B10**



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Prairie City Panther Brianna Zwegardt in action in Friday's game against the Adrian Antelopes.

Lady Panthers fall to Adrian after fast start

Prairie City gears up for game with lone

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

Prairie City's Lady Panthers put up a good battle in their first game of the season but could not catch the Adrian Antelopes, who ran to a 46-19 win.

The Lady Panthers came out with a show of strength to start. Adrian had the tip, but Prairie City's Sarah Ennis took the ball back, and teammate Cassie Hire took it up for two points.

Hire nabbed a defensive rebound from Adrian, and teammate Megan Camarena scored two.

Lady Panther Brianna Zwegardt got into the action, scoring one free-throw point, and Hire and Lindsay Wall each scored once to give Prairie City a 9-6 lead at the close of the first quarter.

Head coach Bo Workman knew this home game would be a tough test.

"Adrian has a strong program, and they played pressure defense to the end,"

he said. "We know what we need to work on."

The Antelopes gained momentum in the second quarter, gaining 22 points while holding the Panthers to two points.

After halftime, Prairie City fired back up, but were outshot 8-6, and Adrian held onto their lead at 36-17 and continued that pace for the win.

"They started good," Workman said of his team. "They took care of the ball the first quarter and kept their heads up."

He said they'll be practicing skills such as positioning, shooting and conditioning in their upcoming workouts.

"We know what we need to work on, just getting that first game out of the way is a big deal," he said.

Lady Panther Brianna Zwegardt led Prairie City with nine points, followed by Cassie Hire and Megan Camarena who each scored four, and Lindsay Wall scored two.

Prairie City hosted Grant Union junior varsity on Tuesday, Dec. 6, past press time. The team will face Lone at 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9, in Condon.

GRANT COUNTY SPORTS ROUNDUP

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant Union girls beat Sherman, lose to Culver

Grant Union was on the road to Moro for the Sherman County Tournament.

The Lady Prospectors claimed a 55-53 victory over Sherman on Friday and the following day lost 47-35 to Culver.

Grant Union girls head coach Mark Mosley said his team executed offense well in the game against Sherman.

"We were able to pound the ball on the inside," Mosley said. "Our overall defensive performance was good, but we still have some room for improvement."

Speaking of the loss to Culver, Mosley said his team didn't handle the pressure defense which the Bulldogs laid on from start to finish.

"We had too many turnovers," he said.

Grant Union closed the gap within two points, late in the third quarter, but the Bulldogs pulled out for the win.

"Overall, we learned the things we have to improve on before this weekend," Mosley said. "We have to learn to handle pressure and become more confident with the basketball. There are many bright points to build on as well."

Prospector boys lose to last year's 1A state champs, beat Culver

The 2A Prospector boys lost 79-53 in their first game to Sherman, last year's 1A state champions.

"They're a good team, and they didn't lose anyone from last year," said Grant Union boys head coach Kelsey Wright. "They're a big team, averaging 6-foot-2."

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PANTHERS PUNISH ANTELOPES

Prairie City boys leap to 20-point win over Adrian



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Prairie City Panther Dorran Wilson leaves Adrian in his wake as he goes up to score in Friday night's game.



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Prairie City Panther Levi Burke (21) fights for a rebound.



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Prairie City Panther Wyatt Williams takes a defensive stance as an Adrian player tries to throw in the ball at Friday night's game.

Coach: Game is good barometer test for season

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

If the Prairie City Panther boys' first game is any indication, the community could be in for an exciting season.

The Panther boys outplayed the Adrian Antelopes by 20 points Friday night, taking a 59-39 win at the Prairie City court.

Adrian was first on the scoreboard, but Prairie City gained a foothold and outshot the Antelopes 16-8 in the first quarter.

Panther Dorran Wilson scored eight in the quarter, followed by Levi Burke with four and Jonathan Lawrence and Danner Davis with two apiece. Davis also had a steal.

Prairie City's Brogan McKrola added two points in the second quarter of play, and Wilson and Burke each shot a three-pointer, the Panthers scoring 20 to the Antelopes' nine.

The home team kept the momentum going in the third with a 20-point gain, including a three-pointer from McKrola, to lead 53-26.

The game started to get physical, and two Panther players fouled out.

Wilson, a junior, led Prairie City for the night, scoring 30 points with 12 rebounds and 11 steals.

Levi Burke also scored in double digits with 13.

Prairie City head coach Jonathan Gill said to be on the winning side against a strong team is a good feeling.

His head wasn't in the

clouds, though. He said the team has a lot to clean up in their performance.

"The first game, you kind of don't know what you got, but to see the guys bring effort, bring passion and heart, that's all you can ask for as a coach, and so I would say it was a good win," he said. "Adrian is a league team, and usually you don't get to play a league team this early in the season, so that was a good barometer test for us to see where we're going to be."

Burke said the skills they've worked on in practice will help them throughout the season.

"We have a lot to work on, but it was a fun game overall," he said.

"We're a little rusty, but we got the job done," said Panther junior Danner Davis.

"I'm really proud of the effort everyone put in," Wilson added. "We still have kinks we need to work out. Adrian played well against us, and they never gave up. It was a good start to our journey."

Coach Gill said the team will be preparing for their next games.

"We're going to go back to the drawing board to clean some things up, some of those sloppy mistakes, and we'll be ready to go," he said. "It was a heck of a win, and we're proud of the kids."

He added, he was happy with Friday night's show of support from the home crowd.

"We hope that the community will come back out," he said.

The Panther boys hosted the Grant Union junior varsity team on Tuesday, Dec. 6, past press time. Prairie City will face Lone on the road at 4:30 p.m. Friday in Condon.