



Staff photo by Ronald Bond

Union sophomore Callie Glenn and junior Keegan Glenn have led the girls and boys basketball teams to a combined 15-5 record to start the 2019-20 season.



Staff photos by Ronald Bond

Keegan and Callie Glenn play a game of one-on-one Tuesday in Union.

## STANDOUT SIBLINGS

By Ronald Bond  
The Observer

UNION — The spark plugs for both the Union boys and girls basketball teams live under the same roof.

Siblings Keegan and Callie Glenn have powered their respective teams to strong starts to the 2019-20 basketball season. Keegan, a junior, is averaging 20.8 points per game as the UHS boys have opened at 7-3, while Callie, a sophomore, has scored 17.6 points per game to help the Bobcat girls to an 8-2 start.

"I'm pretty proud of how our season's going so far," Callie said of the UHS girls start, its best opening to a season since 2014-15. "I think it's a really good start going into league. We're looking really good this year. We all flow really well. I think we're figuring (it) out a little earlier than we have in past seasons, so hopefully we can start really strong (in) league."

Keegan, 17, and Callie, 15, are about a year-and-a-half apart, and

both got into organized basketball around the same age, joining a newly started AAU program in Union when each was in the third grade, though they started playing at home even earlier.

They also possess a competitiveness — often between each other — that fuels them on the court and in day-to-day life.

"It was very competitive (growing up) honestly, a lot of 'I can do this better than you,' and that type of thing," Keegan said. "I feel like that really played a big role in (us) pursuing (basketball), having that competitive aspect and wanting to be better than one another. That sort of thing played a role in our competitive personalities."

With that gamesmanship, though, comes a desire to see the other succeed.

"Even though we argue a lot about (who is doing better) — not really argue, but be competitive about it — we help each other a lot," Callie said. "I know he helps me. We give each other advice after the

games on what we can do better. That's definitely always helped."

Both pieces — the competitiveness and willingness to help — are facets of their relationship that have gone beyond the basketball court into other areas of their lives.

"(We) were pretty competitive when we both played all-stars when we were younger in baseball and softball — who has more base hits, which she always blew me out of the water in that sport," Keegan said. "We're always competitive with that, too."

"And Nerf guns," Callie added with a laugh. "We used to play Nerf guns all the time, and that got pretty intense."

But the debate, Keegan said, is hottest at home following games, which the two often play back-to-back.

"When it comes to me and her, it's more intense after the games because we've already played and we can make those arguments (of who did better) off of our performances," he said.

"I'm always trying to outscore

Keegan or do things better than him to where I can go home and brag about it," Callie added.

They have both had stellar performances, too. Each has scored at least 25 points in a game three times, with Keegan maxing out with a 33-point effort. And while both are able to fill the stat sheet in scoring, many of the other parts of their game are solid. Keegan has developed a knack for crashing the boards, while Callie has racked up numerous steals and assists.

But each says scoring is the other's strongest attribute on the court.

"A really good part of Callie's game, especially over the last couple years, is her shooting, just seeing that be more consistent," Keegan said.

"He can play inside and outside," Callie said, breaking down Keegan's play. "Not everyone can do that. Some people can only play outside, some people can only play inside. It's nice to have that in your game."

The brother-sister tandem has put in ample work to elevate their

play, even working in the off-season with former Eastern Oregon University players, as they pursue dream of playing at the collegiate level. They have worked out together with former EOU men's player Blake O'Donnell, while Callie also works with former EOU women's standout Maya Ah-You Dias.

"Keegan (and I) train a lot together, and that's the biggest thing," Callie said. "You have to put in the work outside of practice and outside of season. During volleyball season I would go to basketball after practice. You just gotta prepare for it."

Keegan was a three-sport athlete prior to this season — he also played football and baseball but dropped football to get extra time on the court in the fall. Callie is also a three-sport athlete, and intends to stay in her other sports — volleyball and softball — even with the added focus on basketball.

"I started playing on a travel team, and we went to Vegas and Seattle and places like that, and

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Photo by Ellen Morris Bishop/EO Media Group

Wallowa's Haley Brockamp, right, is shown during a game against Cove in December. The Cougars pushed 3A power Burns Monday before falling, 40-32.

### Prep hoops roundup

## Cougars give 3A power Burns a scare

Observer staff

The Wallowa Cougars girls basketball team posted an impressive showing Monday to hang with the 3A Burns Hilanders, though they ultimately came up short in their upset bid, 40-32, in a neutral site game in North Powder.

The Cougars dug themselves a 23-9 hole at halftime, but used a 15-4 third quarter to claw their way back into the game and get within 27-24.

"Burns is ranked No. 3 in the 3A classification and if not for the second quarter we may (have) been able to come out with a win," head coach David Howe said. This was a good game for us to play, and I believe the girls gained a lot of confidence in being able to hang with one of the top 3A teams in the state."

Wallowa was outscored 12-2 in the second quarter, which led to the 14-point halftime deficit.

Jamie Johnston led all scorers with 20 points for the Cougars (5-6 overall),

who travel to Pine Eagle Saturday to begin Old Oregon League play.

### HUSKIES HAMMER WESTON-MCEWEN

Jocelyn Palmer scored a game-high 18 points Monday — matching the entire Weston-McEwen squad on her own — to lead the Elgin Huskies to a blowout win on the road over the Tiger-Scots, 59-18.

Kaelin Evans and Jayden Palmer added 10 points apiece, with Evans scoring all 10 of her points in the second quarter, to help Elgin quickly turn the game into a rout. The Huskies were already ahead 13-5 after one quarter, then outscored Weston-McEwen in the middle two periods by a combined score of 36-6 to break the game open.

### BOYS TIGERSCOTS GET PAST ELGIN

A 29-point second quarter by the

Weston-McEwen TigerScots was too much for the Elgin Huskies to overcome Monday as they fell short in a road contest, 70-54.

Elgin held an early 14-11 lead, but the big second by the TigerScots put the Huskies in a 40-25 hole at halftime, one they were unable to dig out of.

Corbin Remington led Elgin with 16 points, 12 of which came in the first half. Tristan Simpson added 10 points and Kaden McClure and Gage McKay had eight points apiece.

Elgin (4-5 overall) hosts Four Rivers Saturday.

### BADGERS UPEND BURNS

After a couple of rough games offensively, the Powder Valley Badgers got back in the win column Monday with a 67-61 home victory over the 3A Burns Hilanders.

Stats were not available. The Badgers (7-3 overall) pay a visit to Council, Idaho, Saturday.