

GIRLS

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liked the quicker pace of their game.”

Prairie City had a commanding 38-23 lead over Joseph by halftime, and kept scoreboard churning with 51-27 at the close of the third quarter.

Six Panthers scored against the Eagles. Amy Black led the way with 27 points and 10 steals.

Amaya and Brianna Zwegardt each scored 8 points and brought down nine rebounds.

Prairie City had a physical game against the Badgers with “a lot of defense and not a lot of

offense,” coach Black said.

Both teams waged a full-court press for the duration, making it difficult to get the “offensive flow” established, she added.

“I was very pleased with our intensity, and our posts really did well at getting position and rebounding,” she said. “Lindsey Stewart and Brianna Zwegardt had 23 rebounds between them – they absolutely made a statement at owning the boards in this game and our guards stayed aggressive in the front court disrupting Powder Valley’s offense.”

Amy Black led the team with 18 points scored, followed by Stewart with 10.

“I’m very proud of our girls for how they responded defensively, now we go back to work piecing our game of

The stats
Prairie City girls vs. Joseph
Points/rebounds/steals/assists
 Amy Black: 27/4/10/7
 Amaya Zwegardt: 8/9/5/1
 Brianna Zwegardt: 8/9/3/2
 Cassie Hire: 7/1/3/1
 Lindsey Stewart: 3/5/3/1
 Sarah Ennis: 2/-/2/-
Prairie City girls vs. Powder Valley
 Black: 18/4/8/4
 Stewart: 10/13/2/-
 A. Zwegardt: 2/5/2/-
 B. Zwegardt: 2/10/4/-
 Ennis: -/4/2/-

offense and defense together for league play,” the coach said.

The team played Grant Union junior varsity on Tuesday, past press time, and is scheduled to face Long Creek/Ukiah in Prairie City at 6 p.m. Friday for their first league game.



Eagle photos/Cheryl Hoefler
Lady Panther coach Penny Black, center, and assistant coach Joe Merchant discuss strategy moves with the team during a timeout.

GU wrestlers take 4th at John Rysdam

Prospectors will host tourney on Jan. 23

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

ELGIN – Grant Union’s wrestling team is gaining momentum as the season progresses.

The wrestlers battled to seventh place at the Dec. 19-20 John Rysdam Tournament in Elgin.

Clay Johnson placed second in his weight class, going 4-1, and Chance Ballou placed third.

Taking fourth in their weight classes were Jesse Paulson and Reuben Nelson. Hadley Boethin and Dillon Maley placed fifth, and Jay Goldblatt and Andrew Copenhagen took sixth.

Grant Union had 10 healthy wrestlers for the Dec. 12-13 Calhoun Classic in Nyssa.

Head coach Andy Lusco said Johnson wrestled well, taking third at the tourney.

“James Mabe and Chance Ballou wrestled in a tough varsity bracket,” Lusco added.

He noted that Maley, Boethin, Goldblatt and Hunter Martin each won a match in what was their first high school meet.

Lusco said Paulson, Nelson and Paul Roark had “their first taste of wrestling, and wrestled tough.”

“We have lots of freshmen and first-year wrestlers who are working hard and making great progress,” he said.

He said the team is looking forward to the Feb. 21 district meet in Enterprise.

The team is scheduled to wrestle in Baker City on Jan. 16 and will host a tournament Jan. 23 at Grant Union. Duals with Burns/Crane are set for Jan. 29.

Tiger boys stick to team goals for 3-1 run

Team takes 4th at EOU’s Optimist Tourney

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

MONUMENT – The Dayville/Monument boys basketball team had a holiday season packed with victories at home and on the road.

The team took down Joseph 50-29 for their first home game of the season at the Monument court.

“We were a bit nervous ...

and it showed the first half of the game,” said head coach Jeff Schafer. “At halftime we talked about personal goals, cleaning up the fouls, and playing our game – the boys came out and took care of business.”

That’s when the Tigers came on fire, crashing the boards and finding position, he added.

“I am especially proud of the fact that they are supporting each other when they get down, and it shows in how they play,” he said.

The team had a good showing at the Dec. 29-31 Optimist Tournament held at East-

ern Oregon University in La Grande.

They lost their first contest 37-57 to a solid Union team, but came back the following day with a 59-52 win over La Grande junior varsity.

“I was proud of my team,” Schafer said. “Even though they were down the first half, they came out the second half and did outstanding.”

The Tigers toppled Wallowa 49-33 at their final game of the tournament, earning fourth place.

“I think that tourney was important for our team because we talked a lot about personal

goals and the team holding each other accountable to do their best at meeting those goals,” Schafer said. “My team is working diligently at defense, being smart, staying out of foul trouble, and encouraging one another.”

Dayville/Monument hosts Harper/Huntington for the Tigers first league game at the Dayville court at 6 p.m. Friday followed by a road trip to Unity to face the Burnt River Bulls at 6 p.m. Saturday.

Dayville/Monument meets up with Long Creek/Ukiah in Long Creek at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13.

PROS

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Wilson 7, Nash 5 and Emily Mosley 4. Rebounding was led by Heather Mosley with 7, Nash 6 and Emily Mosley 4.

The win over Cove came after a tough game the previous night.

Grant Union took a hit from Burns at the Hilanders’ court Friday, losing their first league game of the season, 57-44.

Mosley said his team played well during the first three and a half quarters, then ran low on energy in the fourth quarter.

“Burns is a very tough team and are one of the favorites to win the league,” he said. “We did some things well, but there

are many things we need to learn from as well.”

Emily Mosley led Prospector scoring with 12, followed by Pentzer with 9, Heather Mosley 6, Samantha Brock and McKenzie Wilson 5 each, Riley Sharp 4, and Nash 3. In rebounding, Heather Mosley had 7, and Sharp and Emily Mosley, 4 each.

A recent bright spot for the Lady Pros is their second-place finish at the Dec. 29-31 Cobra Holiday Tournament at Central Linn High School in Halsey.

Grant Union topped 2A Toledo 63-31 on Dec. 29 and 3A Scio 48-36 the next day.

Coach Mosley said their semi-final game against Scio – the favorites to win the tournament – was the best of the competition.

Cobra Tourney stats
GU girls vs. Toledo

Kori Pentzer: 13 points
 Heather Mosley: 12 points, 8 rebounds, 6 steals, 3 blocked shots
 Samantha Brock: 10 points
 McKenzie Wilson: 10 points
 Riley Sharp: 8 points
 Emily Mosley: 6 points, 4 rebounds
 Natalie Stearns: 4 points
 Babe Nash: 5 rebounds

GU girls vs. Scio

Pentzer: 16 points, 5 steals
 E. Mosley: 12 points, 6 rebounds
 Nash: 6 points, 4 rebounds

H. Mosley: 5 points, 7 rebounds

Sharp: 4 points
 Brock: 2 points, 5 rebounds
 Wilson: 1 point
 Stearns: 1 point

GU girls vs. Willamina

H. Mosley: 12 points, 5 rebounds, 6 steals
 Pentzer: 11 points
 Sharp: 4 points, 4 rebounds, 4 steals

Brock: 2 points
 Wilson: 2 points
 Moulton: 2 points
 E. Mosley: 7 rebounds

Grant Union took a commanding 17-1 lead in the first quarter.

“We came out extremely strong and shocked Scio,” he said.

On Dec. 31, 3A Willamina snapped the Prospector’s win streak, but not without a fight. “Both teams started slow

and the game became more of a defensive battle,” Mosley said.

The face-off continued into overtime, the score tied at 31 at the end of regulation, then Willamina pulled ahead for a 34-33 win.

“I was proud of how hard the girls played during this tournament,” Mosley said.

the corner's HOT SHOT OF THE WEEK

MEGAN CAMARENA
School: Prairie City
Grade: Freshman
Parents: Chris and Rebecca Camarena
Sport: Basketball
Position: Post

What I like best about my sport: “Being together with all my friends and having fun, whether we win or lose.”

Coach’s Comment: “Megan is working harder and harder at the game because she’s discovered how fun it is. She likes the game and is fun to coach – we’re excited at her potential and what she’s going to give to our team in the future.”

– Coach Penny Black

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BOYS

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“Tonight we won the rebound,” said head coach Steve Speth, adding the Pros beat Cove on the boards by 10.

“Defensively, we played well, wanting to slow down Cove’s best player (Derrick Murchison),” he said.

Nine Grant Union players contributed to the scoring attack.

“Overall we were able to play well offensively, sharing the ball and getting good shots, plus playing well defensively, which created some easy baskets in transition on offense,” Speth said.

Prospector Nathan Gehley was happy with his team’s outcome.

“I feel that we worked together better – much better than we have before,” he said. “It was a team effort, and we executed well.”

The home game came as a relief after four games on the road.

Burns took Grant Union to task Friday at the Hilander court, defeating the Prospectors 34-41 in their first league game.

“The game was close throughout, and we actually held a 4-point lead in the fourth quarter before a 7-0 Burns run cost us the game,” Speth said.

Both teams struggled to score, mainly due to a strong defensive effort.

“Burns executed down the stretch to hold on to the win,” Speth said. “It was a tough road loss for us, but one to build off of going into the rest of league play.”

The Prospectors endured a nine-hour trip, including chaining up on the snowy pass, en route to the Dec. 29-31 Cobra Holiday Tournament at Central Linn High School in Halsey.

Their first game against one of the toughest 2A teams in the state, Toledo, left them on the losing end at 28-64.

“They are big, fast, strong, skilled and well coached,” Speth said. “We started off well, hanging with them for one quarter, but we struggled with turnovers and rebounding in the second and third quarters, leading to the lopsided score.”

Grant Union fared better in the rest of the tournament.

The Prospectors won 60-56 over 3A Scio on the second day of the contest.

“We led the entire game, but a late run by Scio made it interesting,” he said. “We played well as a team on the offensive end, and worked hard on defense and rebounding to beat a bigger, athletic team.”



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter
Grant Union Prospector Mitch Moulton takes aim in Saturday’s win over Cove.

The stats
GU boys vs. Cove

Points/rebounds/steals/assists
 Mitch Moulton: 27/7/4/-
 Wyatt Weaver: 14/3/4/2 and 3 blocks
 Nate Gehley: 12/5/1/3
 Blake Stone: 7/2/-/
 Ricky Weickum: 4/6/-/
 Cauty Weaver: 4/3/-/
 Brogan McKrola: 3/1/2/-
 Trace Gill: 2/4/-/
 Clayton Vaughan: 2/1/-/
GU boys vs. Burns

Gehley: 9/2/-/
 Moulton: 8/3/-/2
 Leonard Radinovich: 6/2/-/1 and 2 blocks
 Weaver: 4/7/2/2
 Gill: 4/5/-/
 Brady Burch: 2/1/-/
 Weickum: 1/2/-/
Cobra Holiday Tournament
GU boys vs. Toledo

Gehley: 10/3/-/1

Weaver: 6/5/1/3
 Gill: 4/2/1/3
 Moulton: 3/1/2/-
 Duane Stokes: 3/1/-/
 Cauty Weaver: 2/1/-/1

GU boys vs. Scio

Moulton: 32/5/4/4
 Gehley: 8/7/1/-
 Wyatt Weaver: 7/9/8/3
 Weickum: 4/3/1/3
 Radinovich: 2/2/2/-
 Vaughan: 2/1/-/
 Stone: 2/1/-/
 Stokes: -/1/2/-

GU boys vs. Willamina

Moulton: 28/7/2/3
 Wyatt Weaver: 16/4/3/-
 Gehley: 14/10/1/3
 Gill: 9/2/2/2
 Weickum: 4/4/4/5
 Stone: 3/1/-/
 Radinovich: 2/3/1/-

The Prospectors’ 76-68 win over the Willamina Bulldogs in the consolation championship game gave Grant Union a fourth-place tournament finish.

“Willamina was a very scrappy team that had a good shooting guard and a few good post players,” he said.

The Pros took control of the game early on, building a double-digit lead, but Willamina cut that to 7 by halftime.

The Bulldogs led by 6 in the third quarter.

“After settling down, we were able to execute on offense and defense to regain the lead going into the fourth and build the lead once again to double digits,” he said. “Willamina kept fighting and cut into the lead, but we were able to execute down the stretch and make enough free throws to win the game and take fourth place in the tournament.”

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