

SPARKLING LIKE GOLD



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

The Grant Union Gold dance team performs the routine they'll take to state competition next month during halftime of last Saturday's boys basketball game at Grant Union. In front, from left, are Jaiden Kerr and Carli Gardner. This weekend the dance team competes at the South Albany competition.

Malheur puts regional snowmobile policy on hold

Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY – The Regional Office has released a new Forest Service policy that requires the forests to designate specific areas for snowmobile operation, but Malheur National Forest officials say it won't take immediate effect here.

The policy goes into effect Feb. 28 for the region, but the Malheur won't make any changes at that time. Instead, the forest staff will

be working closely with local snowmobile clubs to determine preferred routes.

"The Forest welcomes public feedback and will work with the local snowmobile clubs to identify the routes they have been using to ensure their continued use. We also plan to go in front of the Grant and Harney County courts to solicit their participation," said Forest Supervisor Steve Beverlin.

Snowmobiles and other motorized vehicles will remain prohibited in the wilderness areas.

The new policy requires forests to publish over-snow vehicle maps using existing designations or maps to be worked out through a public process.

In the past, Forests were not required to specify where snowmobiles and other over-snow motorized vehicles can travel.

The new policy, released January 27th, requires each

forest to designate roads, trails, and areas where such over-snow vehicles are allowed.

The Malheur National Forest does not currently have a snowmobile policy for their roughly 850-mile network of trails; most of them forest roads, which are groomed by local snowmobile clubs.

Find more on Winter Recreation on the Malheur at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/activity/malheur/recreation/wintersports>.

GU grapplers take on tough BEO competition

Team looks to 'achieve their potential'

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

HEPPNER – The Grant Union wrestling team faced tough opponents last Saturday at the Bank of Eastern Oregon Tournament in Heppner.

"It was a super tough meet," said Grant Union head coach Andy Lusco. "The competition was amongst the best we have seen all season with over 10 teams, several from larger, powerhouse schools like

MacHi, Culver, Riverside and Baker."

Pros finishing sixth in their weight classes were Hunter Martin (138), Andrew Copenhaver (160), Dillon Maley (195) and Chance Ballou (285).

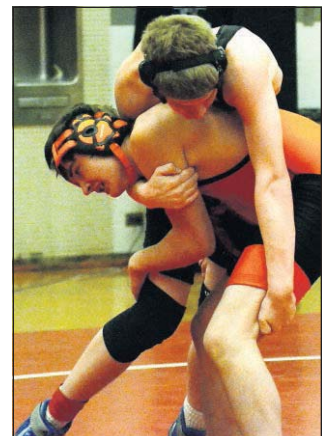
"Antonio Dancer wrestled very tough at 145," Lusco said.

Dancer went 1-2, losing one close match.

"Andrew Copenhaver wrestled in another tough bracket and finished 2-2," Lusco added.

Grant Union has one more tournament – this Saturday at Pine Eagle in Halfway – before heading to the Feb. 21 district meet in Enterprise.

"We need to make a good showing as we prepare to go to Enterprise for districts on the following Saturday," Lusco said. "We are looking to peak at the right time – we want our top wrestlers to achieve their potential at districts, and we want our young guys to surprise people and place."



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter  
Grant Union's Hunter Martin takes on an Imbler opponent earlier in the season.

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PC

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On the road, the Lady Panthers lost to Crane 55-61 on Tuesday, Feb. 3 and to Adrian 28-48 last Friday.

Coach Black said her team came close to beating Crane, outscoring them in the first half, and leading through part of the second half.

"It was a great game and showed our potential," she said.

She said Adrian puts up a "tremendous amount of pressure," and added that Marlyna Woodbury was a leader in that game, calming the team down and organizing them on the court.

Black said the team will work this week on scoring under pressure.

"We want to finish strong," Black said. "We have so much potential, and they haven't lost any confidence."

Panther boys rein in the Bulls

The Prairie City boys had a slow start Saturday against Burnt River, but came back to win 50-29.

"They've been working really hard all year long to get better," said head coach Mark Woodbury. "They've had a hard time trusting themselves."

Against the Bulls, he said, they calmed down after the



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter  
Prairie City's Jeannie McCarthy scores over Burnt River players.

first quarter and started executing the game plan.

"They moved the defense with extra passes, creating open lanes to penetrate," he said.

Triston Emmel, who had been out with an injury, was cleared to play in the game.

"Triston brought a spark

to the team that we've been missing," Woodbury said. "He started shooting from the outside."

Emmel also calmed the team down and made some "great back-door passes," he said.

The Panthers scored 20 points in the second quarter, 15 by Wyatt Williams and 5 by Emmel.

"That was a big boost for us – everybody loosened up," Woodbury said.

Prairie City fell 18-58 to Crane on Tuesday, Feb. 3, and 26-45 to Adrian last Friday.

Coming up

The teams are preparing to face Harper/Huntington in Prairie City this Friday, the girls game beginning at 6 p.m. They'll travel to Long Creek to play Long Creek/Ukiah at 4 p.m. Saturday.

For the Panther boys, winning both games would mean a pass to the Feb. 19-21 district tournament.

If they win just one, a playoff game will be held to determine the sixth seed to district. "We want to win both," Woodbury said.

The Lady Panthers are currently fourth in league.

The top six teams out of eight in the High Desert League will play at the district tournament.

**The stats**

**PC boys vs. Burnt River**

Garrett Hitz: 18 points  
Wyatt Williams: 17  
Anthony Hall: 6  
Triston Emmel: 5  
Danner Davis: 2  
Ethan Camarena: 2  
Brandon Gillihan

**PC girls vs. Burnt River**

points/rebounds/steals/assists

Brianna Zweggard: 24/8/6/2  
Amy Black: 13/7/5/5  
Jeannie McCarthy: 6/1/-/  
Amaya Zweggard: 2/5/2/2  
Marnie Woodbury: 2/3/-/  
Mariah McClung: 2/-/1/1  
Sarah Ennis: 2/2/-/  
Cassie Hire: 2/2/2/1  
Megan Camarena: 2/4/1/  
Sierra Dahlen: -1/1/2  
Lindsay Wall: -3/1/-

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**the corner's HOT SHOT OF THE WEEK**

**DUANE STOKES**  
School: Grant Union  
Grade: Freshman  
Parents: Kelly and Lori Stokes  
Sport: Basketball

**What I like best about my sport:** "I like playing as a team and having all my teammates around me, having fun on and off the court."

**Coach's Comment:** "Duane, along with several of his teammates, is what makes coaching fun. He consistently works extremely hard every day in practice and does what his coaches ask at all times. He is truly a great kid and a fantastic young basketball player."

– Coach Steve Speth

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GU

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league going into the district tournament, set for Feb. 20-21.

Grant Union and Imbler could end up tied for third if Imbler loses to Burns and Union this weekend and Grant Union wins both of its games.

"We need to improve this week and do our best to prepare to win this weekend's games," Speth said.

**The stats**

**GU boys vs. Union**

Points/rebounds/assists/steals

Wyatt Weaver: 21/9/2/1  
Nathan Gehley: 14/4/0/1  
Wade Reimers: 8/11/1/2  
Zack Deiter: 8/0/1/0  
Brady Burch: 4/5/2/2  
Mitch Moulton: 3/2/1/1  
Ricky Weickum: 2/5/7/2  
Trace Gill: 2/2/0/1  
Duane Stokes: 0/1/0/0  
Blake Stone  
Cauy Weaver