

TIGERS

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score didn't tell much, because we pushed ourselves harder than we have all season," Burke said. "I thought it was kind of cool to do that well against the No. 1 team (in league) on their own court, and it kind of surprised

them, I think. If we fight to our full potential, we'll go places."

Coach Gill said he's never had a prouder moment with his team.

"This is the hardest game and the best they've played all season," he said.

He said they'll work on cleaning up turnovers, but added the team is improving and "right where we want to be."

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been working on shooting this week, our shots fell more, which helps tremendously."

Coach Black said Ennis and Amaya Zwegardt "pressured the Tigers the entire game."

Panther Brianna Zwegardt dominated the boards with 17

rebounds, 24 points, three steals and eight forced turnovers.

Ennis had eight rebounds, eight points, six steals and five forced turnovers, and Amaya Zwegardt had seven rebounds, three points, four steals and two forced turnovers.

"Also showing a lot of hustle was Cassie Hire," Black said.

Hire had four rebounds, four points and three forced turnovers.

"Tonight, we got a moral victory," he said. "These kids have already said, 'We'll see them on Friday night.'"

The two teams will be looking for that next league win after suffering losses last Saturday.

Dayville/Monument fell 58-61 to Crane in Monument, and Prairie City fell 58-71 to Jordan Valley on the road.

On the road last Saturday, the Lady Panthers suffered a 44-63 loss to top-ranked Jordan Valley.

Prairie City came out strong in the first scoring 14 to Jordan Valley's 20, but lost their legs in the second quarter. They tried to close the gap in the third, scoring 14 to their 15 in the third.

Black said her team finished strong and didn't give up.

"We still feel good about our effort and can't wait for another shot at them," she said.

Schmadeka knew going up against Crane last Saturday would be a tough matchup, but the team kept a positive focus.

The Tigers suffered a 28-49 loss to the Mustangs in Monument.

"Even though you have a bad game, if you can come back and refocus, that's what good

After Friday's rematch, the Panthers follow up on Saturday, facing Burnt River in Unity with girls varsity beginning at 2 p.m. Prairie City also hosted the Burns freshmen team on Tuesday, past press time.

Dayville/Monument will host Adrian in Monument on Saturday with the girls varsity games beginning at about 2 p.m.

teams do," Schmadeka said.

After the Lady Tigers face the Panthers in Prairie City, they'll host Adrian in Monument with games starting at 2 p.m. Saturday.

Prairie City hosted the Burns Hilanders freshmen on Tuesday, past press time, and they face Burnt River on the road in Unity on Saturday at 2 p.m.

Stats
Prairie City vs. Jordan Valley

Brianna Zwegardt: 18 points, 11 rebounds, 4 steals, 1 assist, 5 forced turnovers
Sarah Ennis: 7 points, 6 rebounds, 1 steal, 1 assist, 3 deflections, 1 forced turnover
Ravyn Walker: 6 points, 3 rebounds, 1 steal, 2 forced turnovers, 5 deflections
Cassie Hire: 5 points, 4 rebounds, 3 steals, 3 forced turnovers, 4 deflections
Amaya Zwegardt: 4 points, 6 rebounds, 2 steals, 3 deflections
Lindsay Wall: 4 points, 1 rebound, 2 forced turnovers

Teamwork elevates Tiger boys team

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

DAYVILLE — Teamwork is the name of the game for the Dayville/Monument Tigers.

It's something they take seriously.

Head coach Jeff Schafer, who's been leading the team for four years, said that is their main strength.

It's a strength taking them to seventh in the state and the top of the High Desert League.

"They're not concerned about being the high-point man, but winning the game and playing the best possible team game they can," Schafer said of his team. "Their defense is very bothersome. They work very hard at defense."

The team of 10 this season includes two freshmen, one sophomore, four juniors and three seniors. Four are returning starters this year.

The three seniors, Jordan Bowlus, Dakota Emerson and Tanner Moodenbaugh, have been playing ball together for 10 years.

"I've played since fifth grade, with the same coach," Bowlus said. "We're playing well as a team and encouraging each other when things get down."

Before Schafer became the high school coach, he spent six years coaching junior high basketball at Monument School.

"We're having a lot of fun," said Emerson. "We're just having fun together play-

ing basketball and working together really well this year."

"We're coming together as one," said Moodenbaugh. "It's enjoyable because it's my last year, and I'm with all my friends."

Schafer said these seasoned players are making the most of their senior year, and the younger teammates are learning and making progress.

"They're coming along and will be an asset, and the returning starters have a very strong discipline to finish and play hard," he said.

The big goal for the coach is assisting the team in going as deep as they can in state playoffs — possibly even the state tournament in Baker City.

"We're trying to fine tune everything we can and keep working hard," Schafer said. "We're always emphasizing better defense and more ball movement."

He said he enjoys watching Gonzaga, and likes their team ball and work ethic.

He added it's that team ball mentality and hard work that helps beat an individual or individuals.

"Even if someone is having a bad game, you can't be down on yourself if you're encouraging others," he said.

The future looks bright for the Tigers as they head down the stretch.

"It's such an honor to coach these guys," Schafer said. "I don't always feel adequate, because they're such good men. It's a joy to come to practice and work with them."



AARON YEUNG

School: Long Creek

Grade: 12

Parent: Wang, Mei-Wen,

Host Parents: Ed & Linda Studtmann



Sport: Basketball

What I like best about my sport: "Basketball is my life. I never give up, and I do my best."

Coach's Comment: "Aaron is the coach on the court, working with the team. He's scoring well and is a good defender and doesn't foul out much."

- Coach TC Connor



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Other teams attending included: Elgin, Imbler, Joseph, Wallowa and Hermiston junior varsity.

Going 3-0 for Grant Union were Clay Johnson (132), Antonio Dancer (138) and Elijah Humbird (170).

"Clay pinned all three of his opponents, including wrestlers from Hermiston and Burns," Lusco said. "Antonio beat Jay Jay Balowski from Crane in a 14-7 decision. He's a talented opponent, and this is the second meeting, and Antonio won both by decision."

Andrew Copenhaver was one of three top wrestlers out of 10 in his weight class, and he came up 2-2.

"Andrew had a big win over No. 4-ranked Raymond Seal from Joseph," Lusco said. "He wrestled very well in a super competitive bracket."

"Every wrestler won at least one match against tough competition," Lusco said.

Grant Union junior high wrestlers and youth wrestlers also participated at the tournament.

Prospector junior high wrestlers Russell Hodge, Drew Lusco and Ethan Moore went 4-0.

The Grant Union wrestlers will travel to Burns on Thursday for a dual meet with Burns and Crane beginning at 5 p.m.

The team attends the Bank of Eastern Oregon Tournament in Heppner Saturday at 10 a.m.

Sign up for Little League

Blue Mountain Eagle

Those interested in signing up their children for Little League have two upcoming opportunities.

Sign-ups will be from 5-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 3,

at Humbolt Elementary, and 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 9, in Prairie City.

Anyone interested in coaching is also encouraged to sign up.

Call 541-620-2803 for more information.

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