



Grant Union Prospecter Clay Johnson earns the championship title last Saturday, wrestling at 126 during the 1A/2A Special District 4 Tournament.

Photos by The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Prospector boys, girls prepare for Wapiti District

Grant Union teams are both seeded No. 2

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

ELGIN — Grant Union's girls and boys teams are preparing for the battles the 2A Wapiti District Tournament will bring this weekend.

The Lady Prospectors, seeded No. 2, are scheduled to face either Enterprise or Imbler at 1 p.m. Friday. Enterprise and Imbler had a playoff game scheduled for Tuesday, past press time.

The Prospector boys, seeded No. 2, will match up with No. 3-seed Imbler at 2:45 p.m. Friday.

The Grant Union Prospector girls and boys pulled out big wins on the road last week as they headed down the stretch to postseason play.

The Lady Prospectors, No. 7 in the state OSAA rankings, beat Elgin 58-30 on Friday and Cove 44-14 on Saturday.

The Grant Union boys, climbing in the OSAA rankings to No. 13, claimed victory over Elgin, 57-27, and Cove, 60-17.

Grant Union girls coach Mark Mosley said he was proud of his team for winning on the road.

"In both games, we kept our defense intensity and did not give either team many opportunities," he said. "Our first district game will be a good challenge because, whether we play Imbler or Enterprise, they will be ready for us. We are taking one game at a time and pushing towards our goals."

In their past meetings with Enterprise, the Lady Prospectors won 54-26 on Jan. 23, and 61-34 on Jan. 2.

They also beat Imbler 46-40 on Feb. 5, and 45-23 on Jan. 15.

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Prospectors claim second at District

Three GU wrestlers qualify for state

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY — The 14 Grant Union Prospector wrestlers strong-armed their way to second place with 158.5 points at last Saturday's 1A/2A Special District 4 Wrestling Tournament.

Clay Johnson (132) and Antonio Dancer (138) were district champions, and Andrew Copenhaver (152) qualified for state with a second-place finish.

Grant Union head coach Andy

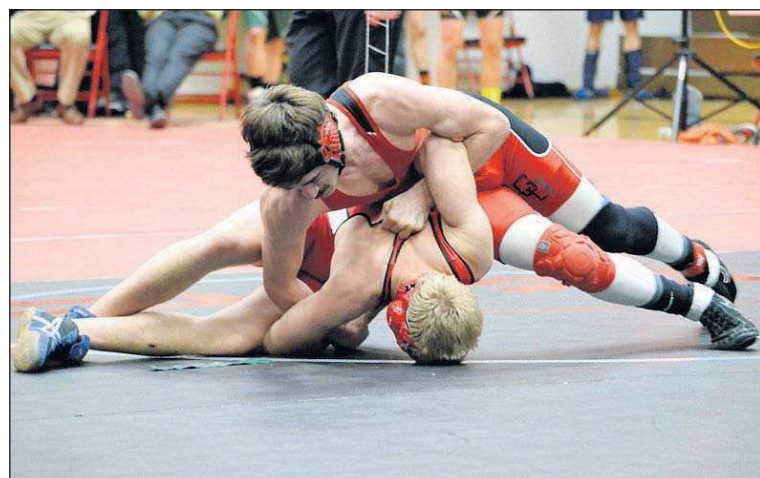
Lusco said his team was just a match or two from beating Irrigon, which won the championship (171.5). Burns placed third (133.5).

"Eleven of 14 wrestlers placed, so that's pretty awesome," Lusco said. "Our kids wrestled to their potential today, and few went above and beyond."

Earning third were Dillon Maley (220) and Chance Ballou (285), and finishing fourth were Braden Spencer (120) and Jay Goldblatt (126).

Elijah Humbird (182) wrestled his teammate Hadley Boethin for fifth place, Boethin earning sixth. James Mabe (138) also placed sixth.

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Grant Union Prospecter Antonio Dancer (138) battles on the mat, earning championship status.

JD third-grader wins third at state Hoop Shoot

Five locals compete at district contest

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

PORTLAND — Humbolt Elementary third-grader Eli Speth won a trophy and third place Feb. 13 at the State Elks Hoop Shoot contest held at Alder Creek Middle School in Portland.

Speth sank 20 of 25 shots in the 8-9-year-old division, his best record yet in the Elks contest.

The winner, who will continue on to regionals hit 23, and the second-place finisher hit 21.

Local Elks Hoop Shoot winners competed at the Jan. 23 Elks Southeast District Hoop Shoot in Prineville.

Devon Stokes, a Grant Union Junior-Senior High School seventh-grader, placed second at the district competition for the 12-13-year-old division.

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The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Humbolt Elementary third-grader Eli Speth wins a trophy, earning third place at last Saturday's Elks State Hoop Shoot in Portland. He previously won first place in the local hoop shoot sponsored by the John Day Elks Lodge No. 1824 and finished first at the district contest in Prineville.

Prairie City teams prepare for districts

Panther teams invite community to cheer, support in playoffs

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

PRAIRIE CITY — The Prairie City Panther teams had a winning weekend to fuel their outlook as they prepare for this week's High Desert District 8-1A Championship.

The tournament, held in John Day at Grant Union Junior-Senior High School, is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. Thursday and continues with games on Friday and Saturday.

The Prairie City girls, seeded fifth in league, will face the fourth-seeded Dayville/Monument Tigers at 1 p.m. Thursday. If the Lady Panthers win, they'll play No. 1 Crane at 7 pm. Friday.

The Prairie City boys, seeded fourth, will match up with fifth-seeded Adrian at 2:45 p.m. Thursday.

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The Eagle/Cheryl Hoeffler

Prairie City Panther Paige Moore gets tough on defense in last Saturday's game as Long Creek/Ukiah's Raquel Silva shoots the ball.

GU Gold dancers gain ground in Albany

Team competes at Pendleton on Feb. 27

By Angel Carpenter
 Blue Mountain Eagle

ALBANY — Grant Union Gold placed third out of four at the South Albany Dance Competition.

Grant Union finished with 67 points, up from 59 at their first competition.

Sweet Home took first with 72 points, Amity took second with a 71 and Bandon took fourth with 66.

"Our goal is to increase our score into the 70s when we attend the Pendleton competition," said head coach Shannon Adair. "The Pendleton competition will be a great competition for anyone in our area to attend."

Four local elementary through high school teams will compete at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27, at Pendleton High School.

The teams will also perform all their routines at their Spring Showcase at 7 p.m. Friday, March 11, at Grant Union Junior-Senior High School in John Day.

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