

## ROUNDUP

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make-up game. Junior varsity games begin at 2 p.m. with varsity games following at about 5 p.m. at Grant Union.

Saturday, Jan. 7, Grant Union will play in Lakeview with varsity action beginning at 4 p.m., after junior varsity games.

### Lady Panthers face top-ranked Badgers

Although the Prairie City Lady Panthers were handed a 48-25 loss by the No. 1-ranked Powder Valley Badgers on Dec. 21, Panther head coach Bo Workman said the game gave them good experience.

"North Powder was tough," Workman said. "They played full court defense the whole time on us. We just need to take care of the ball better against high-pressure defenses. We shot better — we're starting to shoot better as far as taking open shots — playing at North Powder in their gym is always tough."

Prairie City will travel for their first league games of the season on Friday and Saturday, facing Adrian on Jan. 6 and Jordan Valley Jan. 7.

"We're practicing and working on things," he said. "They're going to be tough, but we're coming along."

Prairie City girls vs. Powder Valley stats:

Brianna Zweygardt: 11 points  
Sarah Ennis: 6  
Cassie Hire: 3  
Lindsey Wall: 2  
Emily Ennis: 2  
Megan Camerena: 1

### Prairie City boys ready for league play after loss to Badgers

The Powder Valley Badgers took a 73-52 win over the Prairie City boys after a close matchup to start.

"It was a very competitive game in the first half," said Panther head coach Jonathan Gill. "The game got away from us in the second half."

Dorran Wilson led the Panthers in scoring with 23 points, followed by Brogan McKrola and Wyatt Williams with 8 points each.

"I give a lot of credit to Powder Valley," Gill said. "They are a great team and have a great program. It was another learning experience for our team that will help us at the end of the year."

Gill said the team is now looking forward to league play which begins with a couple road games this week to Adrian and Jordan Valley.

"I believe the league will be competitive this year," Gill said. "It will be a fun challenge."

### Tiger hoops teams host alumni battle

Monument/Dayville basketball teams hosted alumni teams Friday at the Dayville court for a fun night of competition.

"It was fun for the community, and fun for kids," said Monument/Dayville boys coach Jeff Schaefer.

Short a few players, the high school boys suffered a loss to the alumni team.

The high school girls team beat their alumni opponents.

# Hoopsters take hot shots

## Elks Hoop Shoot contest draws enthusiasm

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant County youth lined up for foul shots during the annual Elks Hoop Shoot, sponsored by the John Day Elks Lodge No. 1824.

In all, 23 youth from seven schools were awarded certificates, with ages 8-13 participating.

Each first- and second-place winner received a trophy, and third-place finishers received a plaque.

"The fun part is watching these kids grow up," said Hoop Shoot chairman Bob Van Voorhis. "You'll see a kid 3-feet tall barely able to get the ball up. Then as a 13-year-old, they'll reach out and dunk the ball."

Van Voorhis, along with other Elks volunteers, assisted at the contest held Dec. 3 at Humbolt Elementary School gym in Canyon City.

Volunteers included Carl Lino, Gary Miller, Mitch Saul, Ray Martin and Ray Hire.

Hire's daughter Cassie, a past Hoop Shoot winner who now plays on the Prairie City varsity basketball team, was also on hand to assist.

Winners of the December Hoop Shoot will ad-



**Elks Hoop Shoot, girls 8-9 age group, left to right, Gracie Voigt, first place; and Jin Bo Ciochetti, second place.**



**Elks Hoop Shoot, girls 10-11 age group, left to right, Kynlee Pettyjohn, fourth place; Betty Ann Wilson, second place; Savannah Waterson, first place; and Traleigh Knight, third place.**

Contributed photos

vance to the Jan. 28 Oregon State Elks South East District contest in Prineville.

Van Voorhis said this year was somewhat average for results. However, he said sometimes the kids will surprise them.

"On any given day, you just don't know," he said. "Every once in awhile you get that kid that's just a firecracker."

In 2010, Mitch Moulton, a 2015 Grant Union graduate, reached the national level, placing fifth in the 12-13 age division — fifth out of some 3 million participants nationwide.

Last year, Eli Speth, then a third-grader, won third at the state competition.

"The John Day Elks want to thank the schools and the staff for their outstanding support and efforts on behalf of this annual activity," Van Voorhis said. "It is just another example of the county citizens making a difference for our kids."



**Elks Hoop Shoot, boys 10-11 age group, left to right, Charles Kreamier, fifth place; Jonas McMahan, fourth place; Bridger Walker, third place; Sheldon Lenz, second place; and Ethan Merkord, first place.**



**Elks Hoop Shoot, girls 12-13 age group, Aubreiana Osborne, fourth; Alyssa Merkord, third place; Dorothea Johnson, second place; and Riley Robertson, first place.**



**Elks Hoop Shoot, boys 12-13 age group, Eli Wright, fourth place; Michael Martin, third place; CJ Glimpse, second place; and Mark Thomas, first place.**



**Elks Hoop Shoot, boys 8-9 age group, left to right, Austin Humphreys, fourth place; Cash Madden, first place; Jason Phillips, second place; and Reece Cox, third place.**

## SEASON

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To qualify for regionals, the wrestlers had to compete in two of six ORWAY tournaments this season.

Ten youth wrestlers are continuing competition at post season meets, in preparation for a chance at the state tournament.

Head coach Terry Harper said the future for Grant County wrestling is bright.

"Even at these boys' young ages, wrestling teaches them to win and lose graciously," he said.

"This teaches them, not only in sports, that if they try and give it their all, win or lose they can hold their head high because they did the best they could, and if they apply that to everything in life, they become winners not only for themselves but to everyone they work for or meet in life."

An award ceremony

was held Dec. 20 for all 28 members of the youth wrestling club and their families.

Year-end awards were handed out, including Rookies of the Year 6-year-old Beau VanCleave and 7-year-old Ritter Rookstool.

Receiving the Sportsmanship Award was 9-year-old Talon VanCleave, and Rhys Nehl, 6, was named Most Improved.

Owen Parsons, 6, received an award for most pins. He had 13 pins on the season.

Coach Harper announced the possibility of the local team hosting an Oregon Wres-

tling Association for Youth tournament in John Day in winter 2017.

"I want to personally thank each and every parent for their involvement and support in the club, as well as to all the sponsors who are helping make this possible for the youth of Grant County," he said. "I am proud to say that, at tournaments across the region, our team was a shining example of true athletes, full of skill, strength, respect, confidence and consideration — the exact type of wrestlers the Grant County Wrestling Club strives to create."

For more information about sponsoring or volunteering for the tournament, contact Harper at 541-620-2127 or email grantcowrestlingclub@gmail.com.

Regional results:  
Zeke Rookstool: third place; 1-2 (one win, two losses)  
Tatyn Harper: 0-2  
Owen Parsons: second place; 1-1  
Taylor Parsons: first place; 4-0 (two pins)  
Tristan Clarry: 1-2  
Mason Bengel: third place; 3-1 (one pin)  
Jack Knowles: second place; 1-1 (one pin)  
Charlie Knowles: 0-2  
Talon VanCleave: second place; 2-1 (one pin)  
Beau VanCleave: second place; 2-1

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### A SPECIAL THANKS

I want to thank Dr. Thomas, Dr. Sickler and the emergency room visiting doctors, as well as all the nursing staff, for the special care I was given during my stay at Blue Mountain Hospital.

Although I did not realize how critical my situation was at the time, your concern and the immediate surgery and follow-up care are very much appreciated. We are lucky to have a hospital and staff "so close to home".

A special thanks to my family and friends for all their cards, phone calls, prayers, flowers and help during the past few weeks.

Thanks again to all,  
Brenda Ricco

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