

**BOYS**

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against a great team, and we had a lot of support.”

**Grant Union boys overcome Heppner's height**

The Grant Union boys basketball team didn't let the Heppner Mustang's height slow them down Saturday, as the Prospectors came away with a 45-37 win on the road.

“They were huge, and it was a close game all the way through until the fourth,” said Grant Union head coach Kelsy Wright.

Five Mustangs tower from 6-foot-4 to 6-foot-10.

Wright said his team had trouble pulling away until the Mustangs had some foul trouble in the final quarter.

“I think down the stretch our speed helped,” he said,

adding, “We knocked down some free throws to give us a bit of a cushion.”

He said he's pleased with his team's progress.

“We're improving every game,” he said. “I'm extremely happy with all their hustle, and they're making good plays.”

Prospectors Duane Stokes or Zack Deiter led the way in scoring for Grant Union.

Grant Union will face Wilder, Idaho, on the road Thursday at the three-day Nyssa Christmas Tournament, which is a round-robin event for the boys.

Wright said they look forward to playing “big schools with great talent.”

Grant Union varsity will also host Prairie City at 7:30 Thursday, Dec. 28, in John Day.

**Grant Union vs. Burns**

Cole Deiter: 16  
Zack Deiter: 8  
Cauy Weaver: 8  
Duane Stokes: 7  
Kellen Shelley: 5  
Wade Reimers: 6



Grant Union Prospectors Wade Reimers (12) faces opposition on his way up to score from Burns Hilanders Jacob Cawood (1) and Jake Tiller (10).

The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

**Sixth-grader sinks half-court shot**

Blue Mountain Eagle

Seneca School sixth-grader Bridger Walker won big Tuesday, Dec. 12, by sinking a half-court shot during halftime at the Grant Union Junior-Senior High School gym as the Prospectors hosted Burns.



Bridger Walker

During half-time of the boys varsity home games, the Grant Union science club traditionally holds a halftime hoop shoot.

Tickets for the contest are sold during the games, and names are randomly drawn to participate. If a shot is successful from half court that winner receives \$50, and cash prizes are also given for sinking a shot from the three-point distance and free-throw line.

Walker said he enjoys playing basketball, but wasn't expecting to make that shot.

“I just threw it,” he said, adding he was surprised and happy with the outcome.

**GIRLS**

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“It's a good learning moment for our kids,” he said. “We've got to move on. We've got to play again.”

**Grant Union girls down Heppner**

The Grant Union Prospectors girls started strong in their 50-39 win in Heppner Saturday, leading 30-13 at the half.

The Mustangs upped their game for the second half, but Grant Union held on for the 11-point win.

“Our first-half defense dominated them,” said Prospectors head coach Casey Hallgarth.

He said his team wasn't as fired up as he'd like for the final two quarters.

“We need to learn how to play consistent basketball



Grant Union Prospectors Hailee Wright (10) looks to pass amidst Burns defenders McKenzie Hoyt (0) and Jenna Garner (14) with Hilander Mileah Skunkcap (30) in back.

Eagle photos/Angel Carpenter

for four quarters,” he said. “Our dominance on defense the first half has to continue into the third and fourth

quarters, if we want to be a championship-caliber team.”

Prospectors Kaylee Wright led Grant Union with 22 points. She also had six deflections, seven steals and one blocked shot.

Prospectors Mariah Moulton had 8 points and four assists.

Hallgarth said they look forward to this weekend's three-day Nyssa Christmas Tournament, which starts with a 2 p.m. match-up on Thursday against 4A La Grande.

The tournament will be bracket play for the girls. The coach said all the teams they



Grant Union Prospectors Mariah Wright looks to pass with Burns Hilander Aundraya Ceja closing in during the Dec. 12 game.

face will offer a good challenge.

“It should be a fun and exciting tournament,” he said.

Grant Union varsity will also host Prairie City at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 28, in John Day.

**Grant Union vs. Burns**  
Kaylee Wright: 12 points (one 3-pointer)  
Mariah Moulton: 11 (one 3-pointer)  
Trinity Hutchison: 6  
Madi McKrola: 2  
Whitney McClellan: 2

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

**WHITNEY McCLELLAN**  
School: Grant Union  
Grade: 12  
Parents: Ryan & Debby McClellan  
Sport: Basketball  
Position: Wing Guard

**What I like best about my sport:** “I like the team aspect and the intensity.”

**Coach's Comment:** “Whit is a great teammate and has a positive attitude that is contagious to everyone around her. She is the first to arrive and the last to leave. This is a senior acting and performing like a senior should.”

-Coach Casey Hallgarth

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*Luke 2:11 And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.*

Merry Christmas from Len's Drug

**ELTRYM** HISTORIC THEATER  
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BARGAIN MATINEE IN ( ) Adults \$7 ALL FILMS \$6 ON TIGHTWAD TUESDAY  
MOVIE SCHEDULE DECEMBER 22-28

**STAR WARS: THE LAST JEDI** PG-13  
Rey joins Luke Skywalker on an adventure that unlocks mysteries of the Force and secrets of the past.  
FRI - SUN (12:30) (3:30) 6:45 10:00  
MON - THURS (3:30) 6:45 10:00

**JUMANJI: WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE** PG-13  
Teens discover an old video game console and are drawn into the game's jungle setting becoming the adult avatars they chose.  
FRI - SUN (12:45) (3:45) 7:00 9:45  
MON - THURS (3:45) 7:00 9:45

**THE GREATEST SHOWMAN** (PG)  
Inspired by the imagination of P.T. Barnum, The Greatest Showman is an original musical that celebrates the birth of show business and tells of a visionary who rose from nothing to create a spectacle that became a worldwide sensation.  
FRI - SUN (1:00) (4:00) 7:15 9:50  
MON - THURS (4:00) 7:15 9:50  
\$9 Adult, \$7 Senior (60+), Youth

*We wish you a Merry Christmas!*

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We appreciate your business & support.

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