TITLE

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Prairie City, but the Panthers scored last as Wilson lobbed the alley-oop pass to junior Levi Burke for the dunk with 8 seconds left in the game.

The young Tiger team was overwhelmed by Prairie City, losing 65-23.

The Panthers beat the Tigers 75-29 the last time they met on Jan. 6 in Prairie City. The Panthers have an older and taller team, while the Tigers start four freshmen.

"They're very tough," Tiger coach Jeff Schafer said. "We're young and in-experienced."

Wilson had 13 points against the Tigers, including one 3-pointer. Wilson played part of the game under the boards, filling in for junior Syd Holman, who



The Eagle/Richard Hanners Panther freshman Declan Zweygardt goes up for the layup.

was recovering from an illness. Holman later joined his teammates on the court and tallied 4 points.

Burke led the Panthers with 16 points. Sophomore Lucas McKinley had 13 points, including a 3-point-

Freshmen Jojari Field and Tristan McMahon each had 5 points, including a 3-pointer apiece.

Field's 3-pointer early in the game gave the Panthers an 11-2 lead. The Tigers scored next, but it was their last basket in the half, which ended 40-4. The Monument/Dayville boys put up a scrappy defense, but they couldn't get the ball to drop in the entire second quarter. Workman played his first string through much of the first half, but they suffered from bad passes and turnovers that the Tigers couldn't capitalize on.

The Tigers scored again at the 6-minute mark in the third quarter, making it 44-6. Both teams played the bench in the last half of the

third quarter, which ended 54-14 with the Panthers maintaining their 40-point lead. With 3:22 left in the fourth quarter, Workman put his starters back on the court to finish the game.

Freshman Donovan Schafer, who put up the first basket in the game, led the Tigers with 8 points. Freshman Mark Thomas tallied 5 points, including a 3-pointer. Freshman Drew Wilburn had 4, freshmen JT Hand and DJ Howell each had 2 points and sophomore Rafael Dualibi had 2 points.

Prairie City will compete at the district tournament at Grant Union Junior-Senior High School at 2:45 p.m. Friday, facing the winner of Thursday's game between Monument/Dayville and Adrian, which is set for 8:45 p.m.

The top three teams advance to state competition.



The Eagle/Richard Hanners

Tiger freshman Donovan Schafer goes up for the rebound as Panther junior Levi Burke reaches from behind during the Monument/Dayville game against Prairie City in Dayville on Feb. 9.



Contributed photo/Elizabeth Shelley

Grant Union Prospector Kellen Shelley looks to pass in the game against Jordan Valley Thursday in John Day.

BOYS

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with Grant Union at 8 p.m. Saturday at La Grande High School.

The Prospectors warmed up with nonleague games earlier last week, preparing for last Saturday's game.

On Feb. 6, Grant Union defeated the Crane Mustangs

Deiter led in scoring for Grant Union with 21, followed by Wade Reimers with

Grant Union lost a 34-33 contest to the Jordan Valley Mustangs Thursday.

Stokes led the Prospectors with 15, followed by Kellen

Shelley with 9. At the Outlaws' basketball court, Grant Union was off to

a rough start, Wright said. "It was their senior night, and they (the Outlaws) were pretty pumped up and ready



Contributed photo/Elizabeth Shellev Grant Union Prospector Duane Stokes (13) shoots over Enterprise Outlaw Brycen Locke (34) Saturday at the Enterprise basketball court.

to play," Wright said.

Grant Union had a narrow lead at the half, 24-23.

"We had a great third quarter," Wright said. "We changed up our offense a

little bit and outscored them 21-16 — that helped tremendously."

He added, "They had some big guys and they were definitely using them, but they just couldn't make their short shots. We rebounded great and got up the floor quick, and they just couldn't keep up." Wright said, this season,

they knew what their league looked like, and they practiced for each team.

'We take game," he said. Grant Union vs. Enterprise

Wade Reimers: 14 Duane Stokes: 14 Zack Deiter: 13 Cole Deiter: 10 Ty McDaniel: 4 Kellen Shelley: 3 Cauy Weaver: 2

Grant Union vs. Jordan Valley Stokes: 15

Shelley: 9 7 Deiter 4 Reimers: 3 McDaniel: 2

Grant Union vs. Crane Z. Deiter: 21 Reimers: 10 Shelley: 8 McDaniel: 5

Jacob Vaughan: 4 Stokes: 2 C. Deiter: 2 Taylor Hunt: 2



The Eagle/Richard Hanners

Tiger junior Faythe Schafer goes up for the layup while Panther senior Cassie Hire follows during the Monument/ Dayville game against Prairie City in Dayville on Feb. 9.

DEFENSE

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and dishing off to sophomore Hailee Wall, who scored. Schafer smoked another 3-pointer, bringing the game within 4 points as a timeout was called.

Wall scored next, giving the Panthers a 32-26 lead. The Tigers went to the full-court press, but the Panthers adjusted. Zweygardt scored on a layup, making it 35-27 with 36 seconds left. The long balls failed to drop for the Tigers, and the lead extended to 10 at the buzzer.

"I had my two scorers back, but it was hard for them to get their chemistry back," Tigers coach Taylor Schmadeka said about Rhoda and Emerson, who had missed games. "We played good defense but didn't rebound as well as we needed."

The ball didn't go in for

either team, Panther coach Bo Workman said about the low

"Tough defense won the game," he said. "But we're in it to the end." Prairie City hosted Crane

Saturday, the Panthers claiming a 38-34 win.

The Panthers are ranked No. 19 among OSAA 1A teams, and they are seeded fifth (4-6), followed by Harper (3-7), going into the Thursday through Saturday 1A-8 High Desert District Tournament at Grant Union Junior-Senior High School in John Day.

Jordan Valley is first in league at 10-0, Crane is second at 8-2 and Adrian and Prairie City are tied for third at 7-3.

The Tiger girls will face Adrian at 7 p.m. Thursday in the first round of the playoffs. The winner will face Crane at 1 p.m. Friday.

The top three teams advance to state competition.

OF THE WEEK



For the Eagle/Paul Wahl

Junior Madi McKrola handles the ball for Grant Union Saturday night against Enterprise's Lady Outlaws.

GIRLS

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"We played a good half and had some key stops," Hallgarth said. "We made some adjustments for the second half, but so did Enterprise."

The Outlaws played a physical second half, outshooting the Prospectors 16-4 in the third to tie the score 27-27.

After Enterprise took a 2-point lead at the 6-minute mark, Grant Union held the Outlaws to those 2 points, adding 7 of their own for the 5-point win.

Hallgarth said Enterprise is also well-coached with supportive fans.

Grant Union will play the winner of Friday's contest between Enterprise and Elgin at the district tournament.

"If we get Enterprise again, it will be another battle," Hallgarth said. "It is very hard to beat a team three times, but we will be ready and locked in. ...We have a great shot at getting far into state if we stay focused."



For the Eagle/Paul Wahl **Senior Mariah Moulton** looks toward the hoop in Saturday's away game against Enterprise.



What I like best about my sport: "I like how hard it pushes you, and you always have to stay persistent and positive. We have a great group of kids, and I love them."

11 corner

Coach's Comment:

ELIJAH HUMBIRD

Parents: Eddie & Julie Humbird

School: Grant Union

Grade: 12

Sport: Wrestling

"He's worked hard over the last three years. He's managed to turn himself into a district champion and state qualifier."

- Coach Andy Lusco

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