

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Undefeated Dayville/Monument Tiger girls win two at tournament

The Dayville/Monument Tiger girls are 4-0 on the season as they notched a couple more wins Friday and Saturday at the Arlington Snowball Tournament.

The Tigers claimed a 42-39 victory over Klickitat/Glenwood of Washington on Friday, followed by a 39-28 win over Central Christian.

Tiger Kyla Emerson led her team with 14 points and five steals in game one, followed by Faythe Schafer with 11 points and four steals and five assists and Denali Twehues with 11 points and two steals.

Freshman Aubreianna Osborne filled in for junior starter Aubrey Bowlus, who went down with an injury in warmups for the first game.

The Tigers had a 19-16 lead at the half and pulled away from there.

"As a team, we did a great job playing without one of our main posts and starters," said head coach Taylor Schmadeka. "The team did well handling the ball and limiting turnovers on offense and taking high quality shots while creating turnovers on defense — 20 total — and forcing the other team to take shots that they didn't want to take."

He added his team did well with offensive rebounding.

Schafer went down with an injury in the first quarter of game two. Central Christian whittled away at the Tigers' 10-point lead, and in the third Dayville/Monument was ahead by 1 point.

Schafer re-entered for the fourth, and the team pulled away with the 11-point lead.

Emerson scored a career-high 24 points, landing five 3-pointers in the contest.

The coach said younger players stepped up for their injured teammates. Schmadeka said freshmen Katie Barker and Hallie Rhoda and sophomore transfer student Haylee Collins played well in positions they hadn't covered before in practice.

"With Faythe out, the offense slowed down a bit, but Denali did a great job bringing the ball up the floor and not creating turnovers" he said. "It was a really good opportunity for some younger players to get some game experience — which you can't duplicate in practice — while having our older players find some resolve and play tough when a couple of our starters were out."

Tiger boys have win and loss at tournament

The Dayville/Monument Tiger boys started with a 42-37 win over Klickitat/Glenwood of Washington at the Arlington tournament, followed by a 46-31 loss to Central Christian on Saturday.

Head coach Jeff Schafer said he was pleased with how his team performed throughout the tournament.

"They started out with good motion and built a lead. Then the momentum began to change in the fourth quarter," he said. "I was so proud of our team for showing resolve and fight-

ing for the win."

Mark Thomas led the Tigers with 17 points in the first game.

The Tigers had strong competition in Central Christian on Saturday.

The coach said his team looked good in the first half with good ball movement and passes, but things "began to break down in the second half."

"In the end, they did not come out on top, but I was really proud of their attitude and hustle. Drew (Wilburn) was our leading scorer with 11 points," Schafer said, adding they'll continue to work on communication and ball movement.

The Dayville/Monument boys and girls will host their annual Tiger Tournament this week in Dayville.

The Tiger girls will host Mitchell/Spray at 6 p.m. Friday, followed by the boys at 7:30 p.m. On Saturday, the Tigers host Grant Union junior varsity, starting with the girls at 4:30 p.m. and boys at 6 p.m.

Panther boys press for two wins at Condon Christmas Tournament

The Prairie City Panther boys' height made a difference in their 34-33 win over Condon/Wheeler Saturday at the Condon Christmas Classic.

"Condon/Wheeler had an aggressive defense," said head coach Sam Workman. "They have some good shooters, and we had to stick to them because if you don't, they'll make their shots."

Leading the scoring for

the Panthers were 6-foot-4 senior Levi Burke with 20, 6-foot-2 senior Syd Holman with 18 and 6-foot-5 junior Cole Deiter with 13.

"We've got some big guys, and that helps," Workman said. "We rebounded well."

He added almost everyone scored in the game.

Prairie City had a 75-43 win over Ione on Friday, and the coach said his younger players were a big part of the contest.

The Panther boys will host Horizon Christian/Hood River at 6 p.m. Friday and Imbler at 5:30 p.m. Saturday in Prairie City.

Workman said he expects both games to be competitive. The Panthers have a 4-0 season record.

Prairie City girls fall in two at Condon Christmas Classic

Prairie City Panther girls coach Bo Workman said they were up against tough teams at the Condon Christmas Classic.

The Panthers lost 53-33 to Ione on Friday and 34-33 to Condon/Wheeler on Saturday.

Workman said his team played good defense but "couldn't get the ball in the basket."

He said they're focused on improving transition, which he said will develop over the season.

"We've got some work to do," he said.

The team was also down by two players, one with an injury and another who was sick.

"It hurts us not having them," he said, adding he

hopes they'll return by the time league play starts.

Prairie City will host Imbler at 4 p.m. Saturday.

Grant Union boys compete at Columbia River Clash

The Grant Union Prospector boys fell in their first battle at the Thursday-Saturday Columbia River Clash with a 67-50 loss to Nixyaawii, a team that competed at the 1A state tournament last year.

The Prospectors had a 53-47 loss to their 3A hosts, the Irrigon Knights, on Friday, and on Saturday they fell 48-45 to Joseph, another strong 1A team.

"Overall, I think we played some tough teams," said Grant Union head coach Kelsy Wright.

He said they should have won the game against Joseph, but the Eagles took advantage of some key turnovers toward the end of the game.

The Prospectors were preparing this week to face the 1A Crane Mustangs on Tuesday, past press time.

They'll face cross-county rivals, 3A Burns, at 7:30 p.m. Friday. This will be Grant Union's second meeting with the Hilanders, and Wright is hopeful for a win this time with a couple key players back.

"We're looking forward to matching up with them a little better," Wright said.

"We're adjusting to each other and starting to look better as a team," he said. "When we get that down, I think we'll be a great team."

Long Creek/Ukiah teams split wins at home

Rebounding helped the Long Creek/Ukiah girls secure a 23-21 win over Mitchell/Spray Dec. 4 in Spray. Amos Studtmann, who co-coaches with TC Conner, said his team "boxed out well and pursued the ball, giving themselves additional opportunities to score" in what was a close game throughout.

He said Brooke Harrison was "challenging the dribble," and Gladys Johnson and Jenny Kim did well rotating and stopping any layups.

"Our girls did a good job defending from the inside and secured a lot of rebounds and worked together as a team," he said, adding younger players filled in the gaps for their more experienced players who were either injured or in foul trouble.

The Long Creek/Ukiah boys fell 58-42 to Mitchell/Spray. Studtmann said the boys didn't rebound well defensively or offensively, and "that played a major part in our loss."

He said Ben Combs did a great job fighting for the ball on every possession, and James Kreamier made 7 out of 9 free throws.

"Thomas Kreamier did an excellent job containing the point guard," the coach said.

Long Creek/Ukiah faced Mitchell/Spray on Tuesday, past press time, in Long Creek, and the teams meet up again in Dayville on Saturday with the girls game beginning at 1:30 p.m., followed by the boys at 3 p.m.

Shooting the Breeze: Litany of lever guns

By DALE VALADE
For the Blue Mountain Eagle

Nowhere in the world does a lever action rifle hold more sentimentality than in the American West. Those of us who grew up on a steady diet of John Wayne, Clint Eastwood and the like became fond of these "crank and yank" rifles at a young age.

My best friend growing up used a Winchester .30-30 to take his first deer; my first deer rifle was likewise lever-action. It was a Savage Model 99 in .300 Savage caliber known endearingly in my family as "Gravy." Savages came in many modern chamberings including later the .243 and .308 Winchester. It's hammerless, side-eject design and rotary magazine made best use of these powerful, short action cartridges. This gave a decided edge to the Savage rifles over the more common Winchester and Marlin rifles, which were confined to using blunt bullets in tube magazines. Unfortunately, if you want a Savage 99 today, you'll have to hit the used rack. They are no longer in production.

While not enjoying the popularity that it has had in times past, the lever-action rifle is every bit as appealing and useful as ever. The .30-30 Winchester and .35 Remington see extensive use east of the Mississippi. In the north, short-barreled big-bore rifles are used for the close-quarters shooting often required for moose and bears. My friend Josh Huffaker of Lewiston, Idaho, prefers his big-bore .450 Marlin when he hits the timber for elk.

While the Savage 99, Winchester 88 and Browning BLR were able to circumvent the "blunt bullet blues" by virtue of their designs, modern science finally caught up with the 21st century for all the various tube magazine leverguns.

A few years back, Hornady introduced the most innovative ammunition for use in lever guns. "LeverEvolution" ammo was very aptly named. Previously handicapped by blunt nose bullets, the engineers at Hornady incorporated polymer flex-tips to cre-



Contributed photo

Josh Huffaker poses with a North Idaho whitetail taken with his .450 Marlin.

ate tube-magazine compatible "spitzer" style, aerodynamic projectiles. Velocities were much higher, trajectories much flatter as a direct result. The biggest boons to leverguns have always been their light weight, fast handling and quick follow-up shots, but these new loads extended their range considerably.

Although mounting optics on your levergun may ruin the natural aesthetic, you'll need one to take full advantage of the extra range this ammo provides. Out West, sometimes you need a bit more reach. Like Dad always says, "You can only shoot as good as you can see."

While they may lack the contemporary appeal of the AR-style rifles, and the strength and rugged simplicity of bolt-action rifles, the lever action still remains a solid choice for hunters today.

Are lever action rifles your favorite? Please write us at shootingthebreezbe@ gmail.com!

Dale Valade is a local country gent with a deep love for handloading, hunting and shooting.

Boys

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this."

The Tigers had a difficult first outing Friday and Saturday, falling to the Condon/Wheeler Knights and the Arlington Honkers at the Paul Humphreys Tournament. The Knights finished second in the Big Sky District Tournament last season.

In the High Desert League, the Tigers will face Prairie City, Jordan Valley, Adrian, Long Creek/Ukiah, Crane, Harper, Huntington, Burnt River and Four Rivers.

"I think Prairie City is going to be the biggest challenge, and Jordan Valley is always tough," coach Schafer said.

Prairie City finished second at state last season, and Jordan Valley also competed at state.

Long Creek/Ukiah, which had only a junior varsity team last year, is fielding a varsity team this season.

"They're getting better every year," Schafer said. "You never take any thing for granted in this league."

He said last season was tough with several younger players.



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Dayville/Monument Tiger JT Hand aims for the basket over the reach of Cade Milton.

"Our biggest goal is to produce quality young men," he said. "If they can get character down, that is the biggest thing — that's lifelong."

"The goal is to keep developing and keep moving forward," he said. "Every day is a work in progress."

Dayville/Monument will host Mitchell/Spray in the Tigers' first home game of the season at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14, at their Tiger Tourney. They'll host Grant Union junior varsity at 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, again in Dayville.

Dayville/Monument Tiger boys schedule

Dec. 7-8: @ Arlington Tournament, 4:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m.

Dec. 14-15: Tiger Tourney in Dayville (vs. Mitchell/Spray and Grant Union

junior varsity), 7:30 p.m., 6 p.m.

Dec. 20-22: Union Christmas Classic, TBD

Dec. 28: Alumni games in Dayville, 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 4: @ Long Creek/Ukiah in Long Creek, 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 5: @ Harper, 4:30 p.m.

Jan. 8: vs. Burnt River in Dayville, 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 11: vs. Crane in Dayville, 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 12: vs. Prairie City in Monument, 3:30 p.m.

Jan. 18: @ Burnt River in Unity, 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 19: vs. Four River in Monument, 3:30 p.m.

Jan. 22: @ Grant Union JV in John Day, 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 25: @ Adrian, 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 26: vs. Jordan Valley in Dayville, 5:30 p.m.

Feb. 1: @ Huntington, 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 2: @ Crane, 5:30 p.m.

Feb. 5: @ Prairie City, 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 8: vs. Harper in Monument, 6:30 p.m.

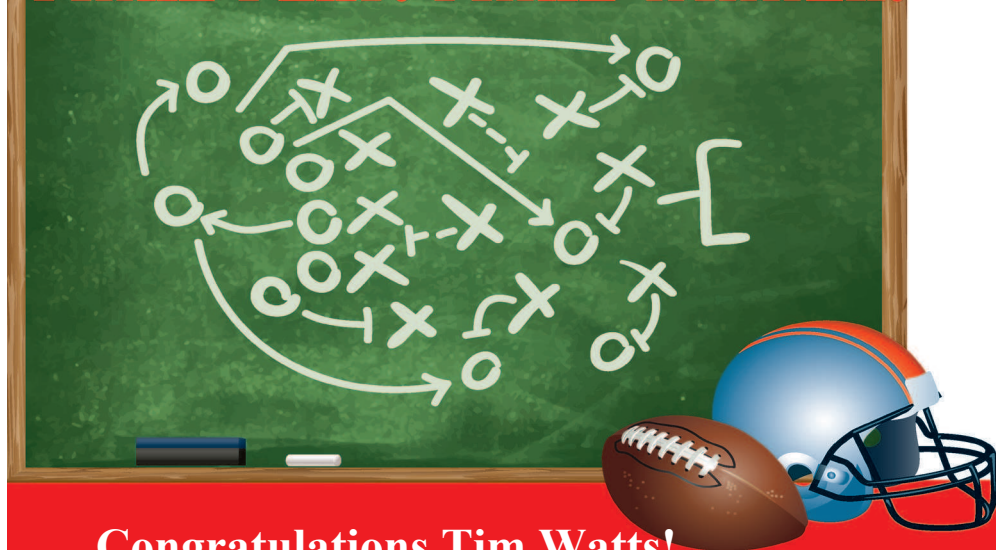
Feb. 9: vs. Long Creek/Ukiah in Monument (senior recognition), 3:30 p.m.

Feb. 14-16: District Tournament in John Day, TBD

Feb. 20: First round state playoffs, TBD

Feb. 23: Second round

FINAL PLAY. FINAL WINNER.



Congratulations Tim Watts!

Tim is the winner of the final 2018 Blue Mountain Eagle Football Contest.

\$50 in prizes is coming your way, Tim! Way to go!

Thanks to everyone who played and sponsored this year's Football Contest.

Wishing you an Old-fashioned Country Christmas.

We appreciate your business & support.



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