

## Grant Union Gold dance team performs



Eagle photos/Richard Hanners

The Grant Union Gold dance team performs at halftime during the girls basketball game Jan. 18. From left: Juen Park, Emilie Updegrave and Clara Carr. Grant Union will compete on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 2-3, in Stayton.



The Grant Union Gold dance team holds up Leah Comer during their halftime performance at the Jan. 18 girls basketball game in John Day. The team will perform during halftime of the game against Heppner Saturday.

## Cheerleaders want fans to 'Get a little bit R-O-W-D-Y!'

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

Grant Union cheerleading captain Torie Coalwell said the team is leading a pep rally Thursday at the school to increase school spirit as the basketball teams move closer to the Blue Mountain Conference tournament.

She said they are planning Minute-to-Win-It games and will teach the student body some of their cheers.

This year's cheer squad, led by coach Brandi Girvin, includes six seniors Coalwell, Yui Asami, Kori Jo Girvin, Shelby Brooks, Avaley Mortimore and Aidan Broemeling.

This is Girvin's first year coaching cheerleading.

She was a cheerleader in high school and has more recently coached volleyball, basketball and T-ball.

"Our goal is to increase school spirit and get more people involved, and for them just to have fun as seniors," she said.

She added the girls enjoy team activities, including pizza and movies at her home, and getting ready for the games together. The girls also decorate for the Prospectors and the opponents, to help them feel welcome.



Contributed photo/Tanni Wenger Photography

The Grant Union cheerleaders practice cheers before a recent home game, including, from left, Avaley Mortimore, Kori Jo Girvin, captain Torie Coalwell, Yui Asami, Shelby Brooks and Aidan Broemeling.

Broemeling, who was on the team last year, said they switched from cheering at the football games to basketball games.

She said their cheers switch up more often with the back and forth of basketball.

"It's faster compared to football," she said. "I think we have a lot of fun."

Asami, who is a foreign exchange student from Japan, said she's excited about the opportunity to be a part of the team.

"We don't have cheerleading in my home coun-



The Eagle/Angel Carpenter

Grant Union Prospectors cheerleaders ignite the fans during a home basketball game. From left: Aidan Broemeling, Kori Jo Girvin, Avaley Mortimore and Yui Asami.

try," she said. "It's typical in America and a lot of fun."

Coalwell said she's glad they have a small group of cheerleaders, and she's enjoyed getting to know the other girls. Her favorite part of cheering is the stunts, including round offs, cartwheels and splits.

One of the cheers the team is teaching the Grant Union students is called "Rowdy": "Let's get a little bit rowdy, R-O-W-D-Y!"

Kori Jo Girvin said they hope to get the fans excited about the games.

"We really want the crowd to join with us in the cheers," she said.

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

### Boys steamroll the competition, girls beat Harper at home

The Prairie City Panther boys basketball team, 5-0 in the High Desert League, continues to dominate their competition, defeating the 5-1 Crane Mustangs 77-45 on Friday and the 2-4 Harper Hornets 61-23 Saturday, both games played in Prairie City.

"We played good all weekend and played together," said Panther boys head coach Sam Workman.

He said, when they play teams that are having a down season, "it's hard to keep them up to par."

"We've been working hard in practice, keeping them sharp," he said.

The 3-2 Prairie City girls fell to 6-0 Crane on Friday, 70-29, then beat 3-3 Harper on Saturday, 52-12.

Panther girls head coach Bo Workman said, even though they were behind in the game against Crane, his team gave a full effort to the end.

"They were doing good mentally and not letting the score get them down," he said.

"They shot better against Harper and ran the floor with fast breaks," he said. "They're working hard, so hopefully the shooting will come. Everybody is contributing."

The Panther teams face Four Rivers at 6 p.m., the boys at 7:30 p.m. (MT), on Friday in Ontario, and they host Adrian with the girls at 2 p.m. and boys at 3:30 p.m. Saturday. On Tuesday, Jan. 29, the Panthers travel to Crane to face the Mustangs at 5 p.m., the boys at 6:30 p.m.

### Dayville/Monument girls and boys win on road and at home

The Dayville/Monument Tiger girls chalked up two more wins for a 5-1 High Desert League record



Contributed photo/Tanni Wenger Photography

Prairie City Panther Samantha Workman passes the ball in the game against Crane.

after defeating the Burnt River Bulls 53-11 on Friday and the Four Rivers Falcons 45-23 on Saturday.

The Tigers are 13-3 on the season.

"I'm really pleased with how the girls are playing," said Tiger head coach Taylor Schmadeka. "We have one of the best records the girls have had in a long time. Their work ethic in practice reflects in the games."

The Crane Mustangs lead the league with a 6-0 record (15-2), followed by Jordan Valley also 6-0 (13-2), then Dayville/Monument, Adrian and Prairie City.

Schmadeka said his team played both sides of the ball well in the two games, adding their shooting percentage was excellent.

Tiger Denali Twehues had a career-high 20 points against the Falcons on Saturday.

"We pushed the ball down the floor really fast," the coach said. "We've been working on that in practice to have a faster-paced offense."

The Tigers have a few tough games on the schedule this week.

Dayville/Monument was scheduled to face Grant Union's junior varsity team on Tuesday, past press time.

On Friday, the girls travel to Adrian to face the Antelopes at 5 p.m., the boys at 6:30 p.m. (MT).

The Tigers host the Jordan Valley Mustangs at 3 p.m., with boys at 4:30 p.m., in Dayville.

The Dayville/Monument boys

also notched two wins, beating Burnt River 65-25 and Four Rivers 61-23.

The Tiger boys are 3-3 in league.

Jordan Valley and Prairie City lead the High Desert League, followed by Crane, Adrian and Dayville/Monument.

### Long Creek/Ukiah boys and girls host teams in Ukiah

The Long Creek/Ukiah Mountain Lions boys defeated the Huntington Locomotives Saturday, 67-39, after a 90-65 loss to the Jordan Valley Mustangs the previous day, both games played in Ukiah.

Long Creek/Ukiah coach Amos Studtmann, who co-coaches with TC Conner, said bad passes and lost dribbles cost them Friday's game against the Mustangs.

"We didn't have a good answer for Jordan Valley's Zeke Quintero — he scored 37 points on us," Studtmann said.

He added they learned from the loss and improved their passing against Huntington the next day.

He said they aim to improve on passing, defense and pass denial when the opponent has a strong individual shooter.

The girls suffered an 80-8 loss to Jordan Valley, and Huntington forfeited Saturday due to lack of players.

Studtmann said the Mustangs gave them some good competition and a learning opportunity.

"When we go against a big team like this, we go for smaller goals such as limiting turnovers and slowing down fast breaks," he said.

Long Creek/Ukiah has had only junior varsity teams for the past couple years, and Studtmann said their goal is to advance to the 1A High Desert District Tournament.

"I'd like to take advantage of the opportunity while we have it to experience district play," he said.

Long Creek/Ukiah was scheduled to face Pilot Rock's junior varsity team Tuesday past press time.

On Friday, the teams are on the road to Harper where they'll face the Hornets at 6 p.m. (MT) for the girls game, followed by the boys.

They host Four Rivers on Saturday at 2 p.m. for the girls, followed by the boys, in Ukiah.

Studtmann said he's hopeful his teams will get the wins.

He said they will have to work together and not as individual players.

"Both teams will have to come in with good team chemistry, good passes, intense rebounding and a will to win," he said. "I believe they can."

Currently, the Mountain Lion girls are 1-5 in league, ahead of Burnt River and Huntington. The boys are 3-4 in league, ahead of Harper, Burnt River and Four Rivers.

### Grant Union wrestlers show progress at Oregon Classic, host invitational on Friday

The Grant Union Prospector wrestling team competed Friday and Saturday at the Oregon Classic in Redmond.

"We had mixed results but wrestled pretty well for a young team," said Grant Union head coach Andy Lusco.

He said they struggled the first

day, going 1-3, and on day two they were 2-1 and lost a dual with Jefferson by 1 point.

"We had to forfeit three weight classes, and that certainly cost us a couple more wins," he said.

"The Oregon Classic is a great test of overall team depth and ability," he said. "We look forward to bringing this whole team back next season with the addition of a handful of freshman to fill those missing weight classes."

Prospector Ethan Moore, wrestling at 106 pounds, went 7-0.

"He had a great tournament and is wrestling very well," Lusco said.

Russell Hodge (182) and Drew Lusco (285) each also had a 7-0 record.

"Russell had a great tournament," coach Lusco said. "He beat some tough kids and was pretty disciplined."

He added that Drew also wrestled well, and his matches were over in the first round.

The coach said freshman Justin Hodge (152), who went 6-1, defeated some high quality wrestlers.

Logan McCluskey (160) went 5-2, wrestling up a weight class. He "didn't miss a beat," the coach said. "He's become a high quality wrestler and a stalwart in our lineup."

Damion Young (145) went 4-3, while battling a nagging injury, Lusco said. "We're very proud of his effort."

He said Quintin Hallgarth (170) had a 3-4 record in a tough weight class. "He had no easy matches and battled hard for three wins," Lusco said.

Lusco added others showing improvement include Sam McCracken (120, 1-7), Ben Henry (126, 3-4), Tanler Fuller (132, 1-6) and Jesse Douglass (138, 3-4).

On Jan. 15, Grant Union competed at the Burns-Crane Duals in Burns.

Grant Union scored 48 against Crane who scored 14. Burns had 45 to Grant Union's 24.

Lusco noted that Trinity Hutchison picked up a win in an exhibition match against Crane.

The Prospectors host the Grant Union Invitational at 12 p.m. Friday in John Day.

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## Meeting Notice

The 2019 Biennial Review of the Upper Mainstem and South Fork John Day River Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan will be held from 3:30 - 6:00 pm, Wednesday, January 30, 2019 at the Oregon Department of Forestry conference room located at 415 Patterson Bridge Rd. in John Day. For additional information, contact Jason Kehrberg or Pat Holliday at the Grant Soil & Water Conservation District office at 541 575-0135, ext. 101.



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